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SATURDAY NIGHT

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THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

TREMAINE
MISS MARIE
WASHINGTON AVE
TOR
DEC 30 1946

THE FRONT PAGE

Communist Candidates

THE fact of a candidate for municipal office being supported by known Communists does not necessarily prove that he is a Communist. There are many cases in which it would be entirely useless for the Communists to run a candidate, and they extend their support to persons whom they would strongly oppose if they thought they could do so successfully. To create the appearance of assisting in a "united labor" movement they often thus extend their support to labor candidates, usually of the C.C.F. party, without having much concern as to whether they are elected or not. In other cases they violently oppose such candidates, but in order to do this they have to run a candidate of their own and to claim that the C.C.F. or labor man is "disrupting working-class unity"; they cannot support candidates of either of the older parties, as they were able to do with the Liberals during the war. A non-Communist candidate supported by Communists may therefore often be a bitter opponent of Communism. It is possible to argue that the Socialists are paving the way for Communism; it is scarcely possible to argue that they are directly helping Communists.

Where the candidate is a known Communist we have to state quite frankly that we can see no reason for desiring him to be elected. That some of them are among the ablest men that their cities or towns can attract to municipal service we do not doubt. Unfortunately their ability is entirely motivated by the single purpose, of bringing about a revolutionary change in the politico-economic system of the country; and nobody should vote for them except those who are in favor of that revolutionary change.

Unfortunately also, the relatively small number of voters who are in favor of that revolutionary change can always be relied on to turn out and vote, and *vote solely for* the one revolutionary candidate, thereby avoiding any danger of adding to the vote of other candidates who might run ahead of him, and proving that their interest is not in the best government of the city but in the advancement of the revolutionary cause. These people constitute perhaps four or five per cent of the total electorate in a few predominantly wage-class divisions; but they all vote, and with the aid of the seventy per cent or so who do not vote at all, and the twenty-six per cent or so who vote but include the Communist in their ballot because he is an able man and a "friend of the poor", or who scatter their votes over a long field of contending non-Communists, they frequently manage to get their man in. With an alert electorate they would much less often do so.

Photographed on her last call at Vancouver in July, the 3,200-ton, four-masted barque "Pamir", frequent visitor during the war, is held in Auckland pending result of a legal battle as to present status. Built by the Germans in 1905 and later sold to Finnish interests, she was seized by the New Zealand Government as a war prize.

Using nothing but sail, the "Pamir" is 331 feet long, with 46-ft. beam, and 175-ft. mainmast; carries 40,000 square feet of canvas, and is capable of a speed of 15 knots.

Those Conferences

IT IS DIFFICULT to feel much enthusiasm for the idea of an annual conference of the nine provincial Governments of Canada and the Dominion Government, which has long been a favorite proposal of Mr. Drew and was last week endorsed by Mr. Bracken. Nobody has ever suggested a conference of the forty-eight States of the American Union with the federal Government, although the same problems of impinging activities occur there

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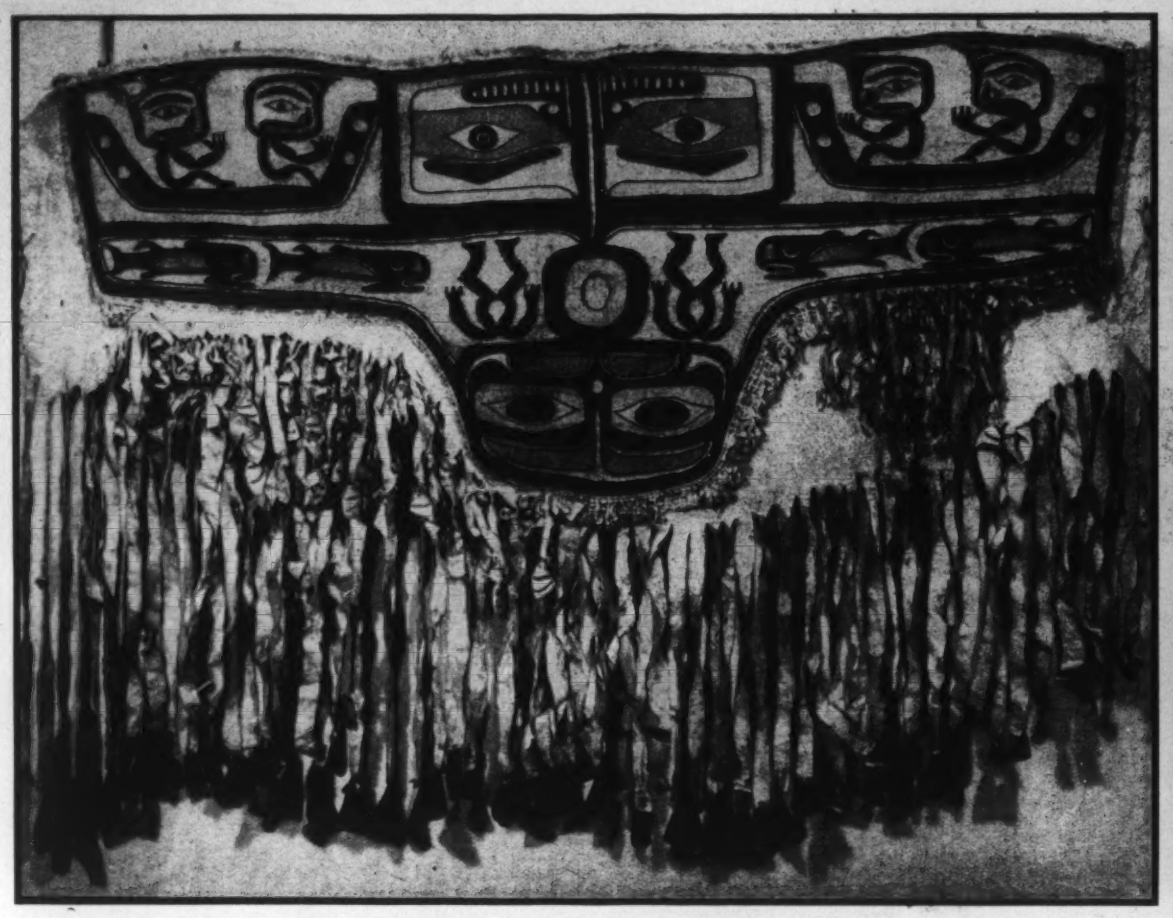
Canadians Have Neglected Indian Art Heritage



A Tlingit waist robe from the American Museum of Natural History. In olive greens, mustard yellows and pale tan, richly figured in black, it is a compelling example of Indian design.

Drum-head design on skin by North-West Indians. Note X-ray characteristic in treatment of the body of left animal. This is typical of work by these tribes.

By Paul Duval

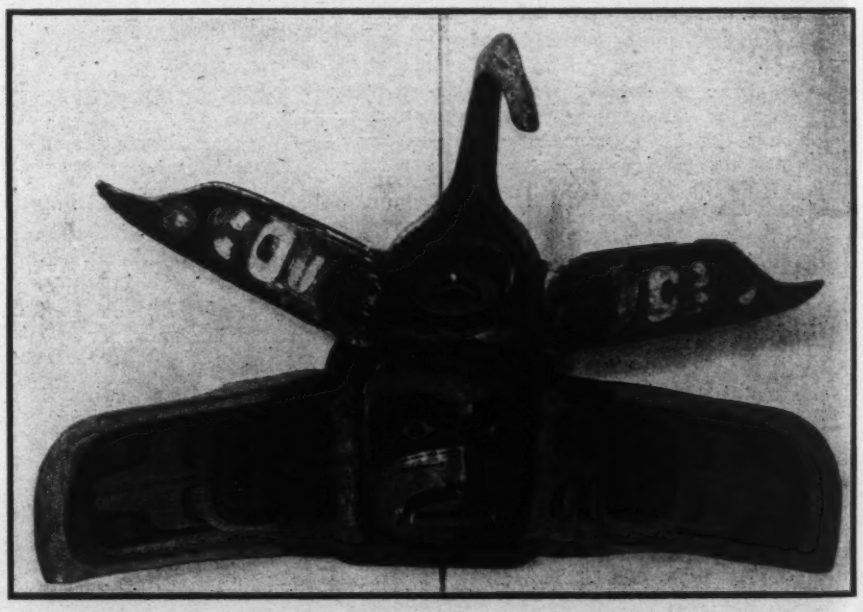
IN GROWING to an appreciation of our own great, primitive art, we Canadians have been singularly slow. And in the interval we have lost many of the finest examples of this art. By the end of the first decade of this century, Canada had been uncomplainingly divested of great numbers of its most remarkable Indian creations, and they reposed in European museums, particularly in Germany. It was the German collector and connoisseur who was most appreciative of our Indian art, both for its value as ethnographical data and for its plastic power of expression.

One of the few Canadians to fully appreciate the great aesthetic worth of our primitive art was the late Emily Carr. She seemed to have comprehended the nobility of the spirit that precipitated the best North-West Indian art, and she absorbed much of its sweeping, but disciplined, rhythms into her own painting, adapting what she learned into a contemporary and exceedingly personal context. It is quite possible that Emily Carr's creations may contribute much to unlocking this store of visual beauty to the hitherto disinterested eyes of our people.

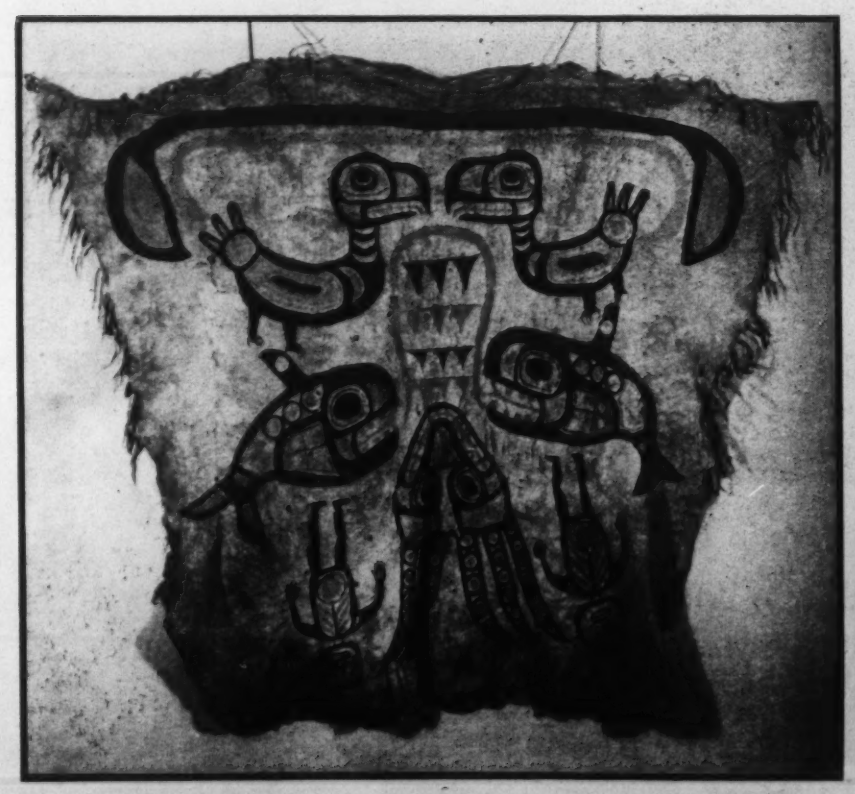
At the present time, the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, and the National Museum in Ottawa (thanks mainly to the efforts of Marius Barbeau) possess quite valuable collections of Canadian Indian art. But few Canadians look upon the works in these collections as other than historical *curiosa*. To the best of my knowledge, no major Canadian art gallery has ever gathered together an important selection of Indian art and presented it for the important aesthetic achievement that it is. And it was left to an American gallery—the Betty Parsons Gallery in Manhattan—to first reveal the good sense and initiative to exhibit this art commercially, and to show together select items from private and public collections.

WE, in Canada, must being to dust off the anthropological profundity which surrounds these native works of art, and display them to the public without too much fanfare of scholarship. It is not that the lore surrounding this art is not important, but, I am afraid, it is permitted at times to keep the public at arms length from Indian achievements *as art*. Canada's Indian art, if properly arranged, could be exhibited with as little explanation, and to as fertile effect, as contemporary painting.

Perhaps, in the not-too-distant future, our galleries with the full cooperation of the museums possessing most Indian art here, will be enabled to present some full-dress presentations of one of the richest aesthetic achievements of any primitive people.



This truly commanding double-face mask, originally from Vancouver Island, B.C., is now owned by noted Surrealist painter, Max Ernst.



This Tlingit ceremonial dance blanket was exhibited this year at Betty Parsons' Gallery in Manhattan. It is a first-rate example of Indian calligraphy and the pattern possesses a tense beauty.

This Nootka wall painting is one of the finest examples of North-West Indian art extant. A large painting on wood, it reveals this form of art at its most telling. The line itself is not as in some other forms of primitive art, but the spacing is subtly and harmoniously achieved.

From a Castle Came a War-Winning Gadget

By FRANK E. CROFT

In the subterranean rooms of Toronto's Casa Loma, William E. Corman and his associates secretly manufactured during the war, the magic sonic device called ASDIC, used with such telling results in the battle against the U-boats. While dancers thronged its upper halls, workmen in the cellar were tooling the delicate mechanisms and thereby gave the old castle, once called the folly of its builder, its most historic hours.

William C. Corman was the man.

A ONE-dollar padlock was all that stood between more than 100,000 curiosity seekers and the British Admiralty's most vital secret during the last years of the war. Any well-prepared saboteurs among the throngs of rubbernecks would have found little added opposition once they had broken the lock—about 20 unarmed mechanics. With that opposition swept aside they could have spent a busy quarter of an hour after which the Battle of the Atlantic would have been put back at least a year.

The secret, known as ASDIC, was the sonic apparatus with which a ship could detect a U-Boat at a distance of five miles. When still more than a mile away it knew the sub's depth to a foot, its distance to within a few yards, its speed to within a fraction of a knot and its course to a degree. After that it was merely a matter of closing in and dropping the depth charge "pattern". From the time the first ASDIC assembly reached the first allied warship to be so equipped it was only a matter of production until the submarine wolf packs could be harried and killed faster than they could be whelped in the steel forests of Bremen and Hamburg.

Just as amazing as the vulnerability in which ASDIC was assembled was the place where this operation took place. It was in a castle whose splendor looks like something in a Maxfield Parrish calendar. The castle, Casa Loma, is situated on a hill in Toronto's residential section.

For ten years after Casa Loma was completed the owner, Sir Henry Pellatt, roamed through its 100 rooms, gazed from its Elizabethan casements ($2000 a square foot) and entertained his friends in the great hall. Sometimes they would wander in to the music room and hear a virtuoso perform on the $75,000 pipe organ. More restless souls could have a swim in the basement pool, try their marksmanship in the finest private shooting gallery in the world or play billiards in surroundings which make the Waldorf's billiard room look like a Bowery pool hall. Casa Loma was, and still is, quite a place.

But Sir Henry found that an annual servants' payroll of more than $20,000 and a coal bill of nearly $10,000, to name two household expenses, stretched the family budget too far for comfort; so in 1923 he moved out of his dream castle and a few years later it fell to the city of Toronto for back taxes. Casa Loma was later leased to the West Toronto Kiwanis Club to be run as a showplace and recreation centre, the proceeds to be divided between the city and the club, the latter using its revenue for handicapped and underprivileged children.

Man from the Admiralty

"One morning in the spring of 1941," says William E. Corman, of Corman Engineering Co. Ltd., "a man came into my office. He was carrying a bundle of blueprints under his arm and introducing himself as being from the Admiralty.

"First of all he told me enough about himself for me to know that he wasn't just canvassing the block. Then he opened out a master drawing, about the size of a movie screen, of the ASDIC assembly. He said, 'I have an order-in-council empowering you to make many of the parts and assemble the whole business. I assume you will start tooling up at once'. I took one look at the drawing and shook all over. It seemed definitely beyond my depth. Then I took a second look and asked a few questions. He seemed pleased with the questions, and settled more comfortably into his chair."

But Corman became even more sceptical about his ability to do the job and his uncertainty turned to something like the jitters when his visitor told him that the only plant in the world assembling ASDIC had been destroyed in the blitz and that Churchill's cabinet had decided operations should be resumed in North America. The United States was not then in the war. A careful investigation of Canada's industrial set-up resulted in the Toronto firm being chosen to do the job.

"By five o'clock that afternoon I had used up my last excuse," Corman relates. "So he unrolled a few more blueprints and we put our heads together."

After arranging to have the parts made in about 20 plants besides his own, Corman was faced with the very difficult problem of how to find an assembly plant with enough head room to accommodate the main gear assembly. The general impression of submarine detection apparatus is that a pair of ear-phones and a box the size of a radio set make up the whole affair. Actually, ASDIC starts several feet below the bottom of the ship, where about half the mechanism is enclosed in a torpedo shaped casing. A shaft connects it with the instrument panels and the remainder of the apparatus above. This is housed in a separate cabin, like a wireless operator's cabin. The whole thing is shipped as a unit, so space is needed for the assembly. ASDIC, by the way, stands for Anti-Submarine Detection Investigation Committee, the men who invented and perfected the apparatus.

"For several days I worried myself sick about assembling this jigger where the danger of sabotage would be the least possible," Corman says. "How or why I hit on Casa Loma I don't know to this day, but as soon as it entered my mind I scuttled up there to see the place. I paid my two bits and wandered through with a couple of hundred other gawkers. I found that about 400 to 500 people a day, and 1000 on Sundays, traipsed through the place and that a big dance was held there a couple of nights a week. Hundreds of people milling around all the time. Just the place for secret operations.

"I figured that you could go into the wilderness, dig into the side of a hill, and make a concrete lined plant like something in a grade B movie; you could surround this with enough barbed wire to fence a ranch and place a battalion of the Coldstream Guards on duty; and the boys in Berlin would know all about it in a week.

"But Casa Loma; that was different! Any spy or saboteur worth his salt wouldn't go to a Coney Island shooting gallery to inspect the latest model of the Garand rifle, so it stood to reason that no one would bother us in a freak castle crawling with pleasure seekers."

"What Will Council Say?"

Corman called on the Kiwanian who manages the castle and pointed out the section he had selected. "I told him it was to assemble a war job and that we didn't have time to build an addition to our plant, which was true," Corman says.

"What will the city council say?" the manager asked. "We rent the place but the city owns it."

"The city council won't know about it, until the war is over," Corman replied.

"How can you keep it from them?" the manager demanded.

"Easy—don't tell 'em."

In a few well chosen words Corman let it be known that, having been compelled to reveal as much as he had in order to get the place required, no one else in the club, at the city hall, or anywhere else was to know why a section of the building was being shut off. "As for the council, they'll forgive us when the Germans have been licked," Corman concluded. "After all, they hate them just as much as we do."

The manager yielded. Corman went back to his plant and selected his assembly crew. Twenty hand-picked workers quietly gathered up their tools and moved to the castle. From then until the end of the war the humming of their machines was often drowned in the sound of a swing band in another part of the castle; the admiring exclamations of sightseers surged through the separating door to the ears of the workers. Neither spies nor saboteurs ever called.

The padlock is now off the door. Visitors again get their full two bits worth.

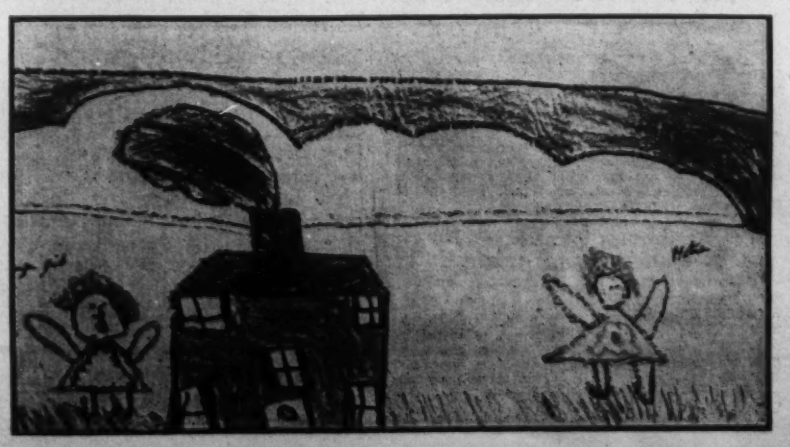
Toronto's Casa Loma, built by Sir Henry Pellatt, was the place.

British Doctors Believe Child's Play Reveals Its Troubles

"Difficult" children can now have psychiatric treatment at special clinics in Britain, where doctors, realizing how crowded housing conditions restrict a child's games, are mainly interested in watching children at play. Joan (above) beats up the black doll, or "bad baby" representing herself, revealing an unconfessed sense of guilt. She also plays at upsetting food, thus "playing out" the real situation. From her drawing . . .

. . . the doctor discovers her trouble is loneliness; father is away from home, her mother is miserable and not paying enough attention to Joan.

May loves her new sister, yet is also intensely jealous of her. She does not display this feeling directly but does so by tantrums, nail-biting and bed-wetting. Whilst at play she "buzz-bombs" the baby doll that represents her little sister. As soon as her jealousy has been expressed, however, she is free to show the other side of her feelings. The drawing below was by a six-year-old who was shut in his room every time he was naughty, and indicates the child had a morbid fear of the house burning down. Child at left is a sister, and figure at right, the mother.



DEAR MR. EDITOR

Broadcasters Deny Shirking Their Responsibilities to Culture

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

PROBABLY Robert Dunbar in his article "Ace Radio Impresarios Are Statisticians" (SATURDAY NIGHT, November 30) is not familiar with Baltasar Gracian . . . "Do not alone condemn what pleases the many. It must have some good to be satisfying to so many, and even though it cannot be explained, it does give joy; the man who stands apart is always despised, and when he is wrong, he becomes ridiculous. What all say either is so, or is wished so." The concept of the intellectual cognoscenti is unconsciously but none-the-less effectively arrogant. It seems strange that they should accept the concept of democracy with its implications of freedom of choice and majority rule as a political theory, but reject its application to the field of the arts. The assumption that what the literati consider superior must be so would be less confusing to the man in the street if the critics could agree amongst themselves. In all the fields of art there are too many cases where a given work is today trash, tomorrow genius, in the opinion of the critics.

Probably Mr. Dunbar did not intend to leave the implication—as his article unfortunately does—that cartelization exists in Canadian radio. The broadcasting industry of this country is singularly free from that condition, consisting as it does of independent units confined to a single operation in a single community in the vast majority of cases. Furthermore, it is obvious that books and publications, periodicals and newspapers, are produced largely because people want them and will read them; that the majority are consciously shaped toward acceptance by prevailing public taste. Nor have the great masters of the arts scorned majority opinion, and many of their works in every field were produced for the prevailing popular taste. If, indeed, the public taste is in need of uplift, a seriously debatable proposition, then it can best be done by easy stages—a proposition of which broadcasters are keenly aware.

The commercial broadcasting stations of Canada do cater to the more sophisticated taste in the field of music, drama and information. That their efforts may have leaned more heavily on the latter is due to the critical and disturbed nature of our times, a condition which requires discussion and information. To this responsibility Canadian broadcasters have been and are keenly alive. Radio listeners may, if they choose, select performances of symphonies, operas, classical works, finer dramatic performances, discussion and opinion programs from amongst the wide variety open to them. There is a much larger percentage of this type of broadcast than would be warranted by sheer statistics.

However, it still seems a rather startling concept that any production or program which is popular must therefore be inferior. That there is a place for Brahms and Beethoven, no one can doubt, and those familiar with the record know that Brahms and Beethoven are well represented in radio program schedules. There still remains a place for Stephen Foster and Irving Berlin, and, for matter of that, Cole Porter. The popular music, or drama, of today may well be the classics—or at least folklore—of tomorrow. Meantime, there may still be room for the concept that when a majority of people desire certain things, they have some right to them.

T. J. ALLARD,
Director of Public Service,
Canadian Association
of Broadcasters

Toronto, Ont.

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Tortured

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

IN A book review of "The Colorado," by Frank Waters (S. N., Dec. 7), appears this sentence: "From an altitude exceeding 12,000 feet its bed sinks in places to 200 feet below sea-level." The heading is "Tortured," presumably the river in getting back to sea-level.

Winnipeg, Man. M. A. LYONS

Yours for the Asking

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

ACCORDING to a published report Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King intends to retain the leadership of the Liberal party as long as the Liberal Government remains in power in Ottawa. I believe that the Liberal Government will remain in power as long as they have the support of the people of Canada.

To secure the continued support of the people of Canada the Liberal Government should give them anything they ask for regardless of the cost to the country.

And to encourage the people to ask for a higher standard of living, a lower cost of living, lower taxation, higher family allowances, higher pensions, fewer working hours and more wages, health and unemployment insurance, more vacations with pay, etc., etc. I suggest that all Federal Government letters sent to the people of Canada should have this complimentary close "Yours for the asking."

I feel certain that if my suggestion is given the serious consideration it deserves the Liberal Government will remain in power for ever and a day.

Montreal, Que. MORRIS GOODMAN

Russian Agriculture

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

UNFORTUNATELY the facts and figures in P. M. Richards' verbal cameo on the Soviet scene ("Russia's Low Productivity", S.N., Nov. 16) do not come to the eyes of the average Canadian, though he is chock-full of opinions about Russia this and Russia that, and needs them in the worst way. I would like to see such data beamed to every home in the land, where they would do the most good!

Maybe a thought or two from the farm angle would fit into the aforesaid economic picture? While no direct reference is made to Soviet Agriculture, I was intrigued by this statement: "The 'bear that walks like a man'," says Benjamin W. Corrado in *Barron's*, "may look grim and powerful, but he needs vitamins. . ."

The other night our discussion group got a close-up look at the farm status of our Soviet friends, in a story entitled "Behind the Iron Curtain" by a North American newspaper publisher whose article opened on this note: "It took me six months to get into Russia," and included the following interview (in part) with the chairman of a collective farm. "The average worker on this farm earned 300 labor-days last year. And for each labor-day we divided 3.3 pounds of wheat and 9.9 pounds of vegetables; 3.3 pounds of fruit and 12 cents." Or, 990 pounds of wheat, 2,970 pounds of vegetables, 990 pounds of fruit, and $36 for the year's work. That's after the farm has met its obligations. The collective farm doesn't own the land—it just has the use of it for ever." (John L. Strohm).

The foregoing statistics took most of the steam from the more radical of forum membership.

Good luck to our Soviet ally! At the same time, other folks are entitled to their share of the good society, and their place in the sun. It takes two to cooperate.

Toronto, Ont. R.R. No. 8 (YORK CO.)

Canada Vs. One or Both?

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

ONE could have wished that Mr Chaloult's letter (S.N., Dec. 7) had been a little more forward-looking. In the event of a war between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. (which is the premise of the whole discussion), with Canada in the role of Belgium, it would be interesting to have his views as to whether Canada should defend herself against one only (the first to use our soil, which would presumably be the United States), against both, or against neither. And in the possible event of Britain wanting to come to our assistance, should we permit her to be as foolish as Canada, according to Mr. Chaloult, was in 1914 and 1939, or should we forbid her to violate our borders?

Ottawa, Ont. PRACTICUS

A "Pro" for Franco?

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

MR. WOODSIDE, commenting on the Spanish question for the C.B.C. informed us how Franco and his Government were taking score of the countries who voted for and against his régime. There is certainly no satisfaction knowing that Canada is one of the "pros", intimated by her refusal to vote on the question at the United Nations Assembly. Surely we should have the courage to come out openly and say that we do not wish to see Franco and his henchman remain in office.

Hairy Hill, Alta. H. R. BOUTILLIER JR.

Marsh It Is

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

I AGREE with the appropriately named Mr. Badger of West Vancouver that it was an awful mistake to turn Edward Marsh into a less static "March" in my recent article on Rupert Brooke. The Lord knows, we all make slips, Mr. Gopher. But the slip in this case, I'm afraid, must be laid on the doorstep of SATURDAY NIGHT's printer and proofreader. I have just consulted my carbon copy and it most unmistakably reads "Marsh". But when Mr. Wolverine—I'm catching the habit from him—so acidulously asserts it's stupid to claim there are only a few villages between Ottawa and the North Pole he leaves me wondering what's become of Chelsea and Low and Gracefield not to mention Maniwak (which he erroneously writes down as Maniwaki)? Aren't these still there and still enjoying the benefits of C.P.R. rail service?

Moreover, a hundred and seventy-five miles north of Ottawa, it seems to me, there used to be a transcontinental railway known as the Canadian National, with towns like Parent and Doucet not entirely occupied by Eskimos. Can it be a Russian atomic bomb has wiped them away as completely as my badgering friend has wiped away the last of my literary integrity? And, speaking of integrity, I might add that he errs when he speaks of my article as a "review" of Marsh's book. Books 21 years old are not customarily reviewed, at least not in an up-to-the-minute weekly like SATURDAY NIGHT.

And I hate to have to say it, but Mr. Badger is wrong again when he states Mr. Marsh (now Sir Edward Marsh) published Rupert Brooke's letters. Sidgwick & Jackson (of London) published that volume in 1925. And he is wrong still again when he speaks of Brooke's letters from America being published "barely 28 years" ago. They were first published in the Westminster *Gazette* in 1913 (and a few in 1914) thirty-three years ago. But the best of us makes a slip now and then!

ARTHUR STRINGER

Mountain Lakes, N.J.

Passing Show

By S. P. TYLER

THE HON. Douglas Abbott, says an editorial, is a worthy successor to the Hon. J. L. Ilsley as Minister of Finance. All the same, most of us are hoping that he hasn't quite the same taking ways.

•

With the acceptance of John D. Rockefeller's gift of the $8.5 million site in New York by the United Nations, it can now be stated that no reader of this column sent in a better offer.

•

Headlines in New York paper:

REVOLUTION IN VENEZUELA
CHAMBERMAID WOUNDED
REBELS CRUSHED

With the domestic servant situation as it is, what else could they expect from such goings-on?

•

A writer in *Saturday Evening Post* says of paragraph writing — similar to this Passing Show — that "no form of work is done at a higher mental tension." The defence rests.

•

Up in Arms

During a boy-and-girl round table discussion in Chicago on world affairs, one little lady declared that "the nations have proved they are just babies, or they wouldn't get into so much mischief." However, many cradle occupants, resenting the slur implied by the analogy, will refuse to accept the statement lying down.

•

A recent headline:

5 LB. HAGGIS FLOWN ACROSS
ATLANTIC FOR NEW YEAR

This confirms the remark of Sir Hartley Shawcross at a U.N. session, when he stated that "there is no longer safe ground for being sure that the atom bomb is the most terrible weapon."

We learn from the press that the ceiling has been lifted off human skeletons, and they now fetch as high as $100. We are trying to figure out how we can make use of ours to help meet the balance of our 1946 income tax.

•

John Ringling, Vice-President of Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey Circus, is reported to have arrived in Spain looking for an act to add to a new show. A popular item as long as it lasted would be Franco doing a high flying trapeze act, blindfolded, and without a net.

•

Oh, Baby!

Miss Lily Pons believes that radio stars "are born too quickly in these days." This probably accounts for the impression abroad that some of these blues singers seem to do their stuff from the inside of an incubator.

•

In a parish magazine editorial, readers are asked: "What will the New Year bring forth?" Ours promises to be rather colorful if we decide to hold on to the tear-off calendar supplied by our local coal merchant.

•

A national committee in the United States is offering special prizes to poultry breeders in a nation-wide search for the "Chicken-of-Tomorrow." To those who are interested, we suggest preliminary research into what makes a centipede a centipede, and work up from there.

•

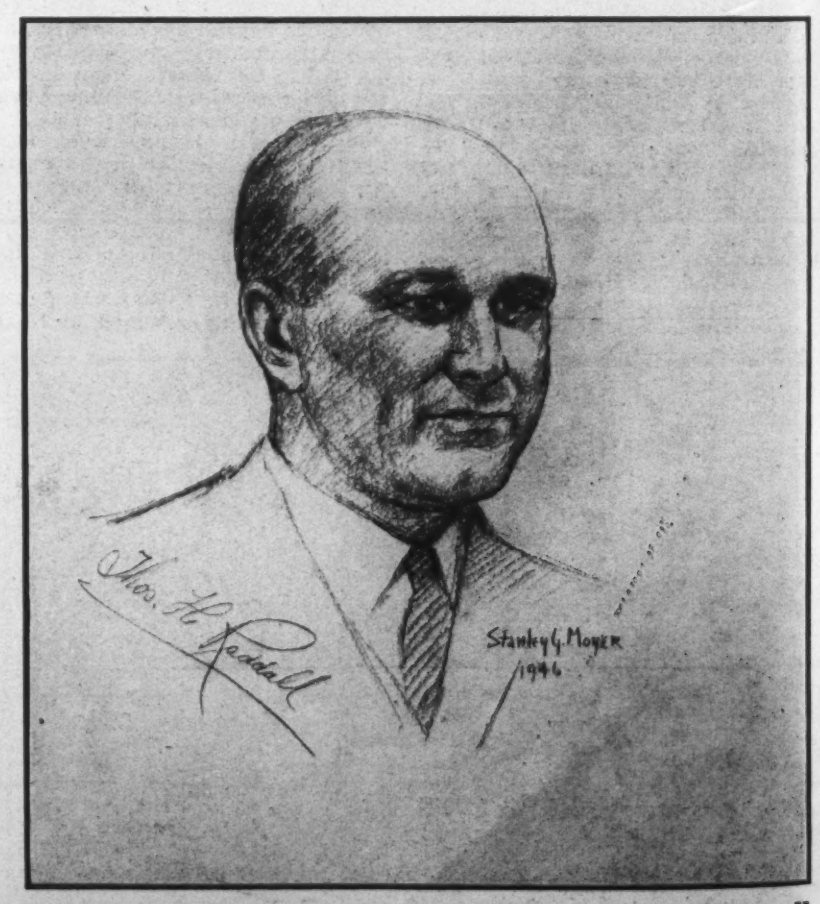
From a story in a Sunday supplement:

"He looked at her, lowering his eyes; his rigid figure drooped, his face was distorted with pain, but he remained outwardly calm."

The fellow sounds crooked to us.

•

Now that Professor E. H. Schrieber of Wisconsin University has announced that a handful of uranium will run an automobile for forty years, all that we seem to be waiting for is an automobile that will run for forty years on a handful of uranium.



Latest portrait of Canada's well-known historical novelist, Thomas H. Raddall, whose fifth book, "Pride's Fancy" is having a well-deserved success. Born at Hythe, England, he was brought to Nova Scotia at an early age, and his knowledge of all phases of life there from the eighteenth century to the present day is apparent in his writings.

The Front Page

(*Continued from Page One*)

as here. Conferences have occasionally been necessary in Canada because of the lack of any prescribed method of amending the constitution, which makes it necessary to resort to temporary "agreements" about the use rather than the permanent allocation of certain of the sovereign powers. They have never been particularly pleasant or productive of better mutual feeling between different parts of the country. They take up a great deal of the time of Ministers who ought to be attending to their proper tasks. Nothing can be achieved at them without unanimity on the part of the nine provinces, and the chances of attaining that unanimity are almost inconceivably remote. (Anything in the way of decision by majority vote would of course be laughed out of court by Quebec, and probably also by Ontario, both of which provinces are as deeply attached to the veto principle as Mr. Molotov himself.)

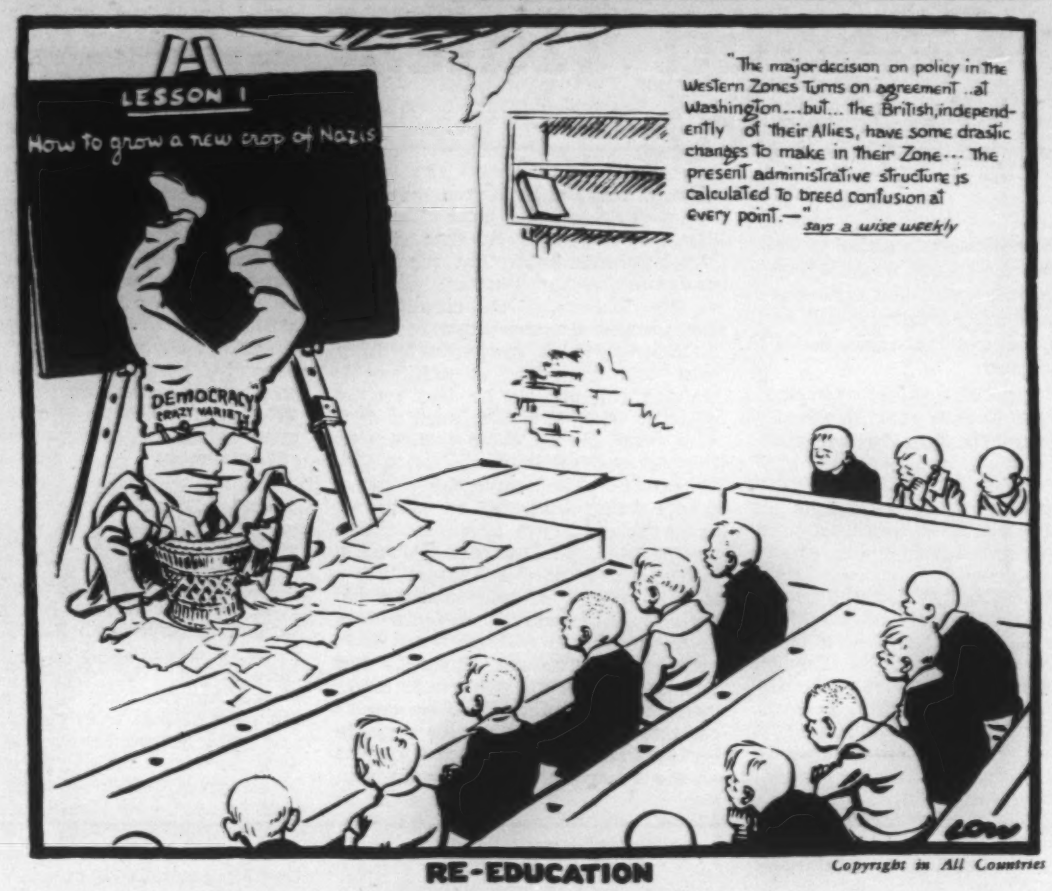
The other idea of Mr. Drew which Mr. Bracken has also adopted is more interesting. This is the abandonment, presumably at first by "agreement" but eventually by constitutional change, by the Dominion of its power to impose certain minor direct taxes. The gasoline tax is really a tax on the use of roads, and there are strong arguments for regarding it as a field strictly proper to the provinces. The amusement tax is also extremely local in character. Mr. Bracken carefully refrained from endorsing the demand of some of his provincial partisans for exclusive provincial rights to the succession duties, a kind of tax for which the arguments are all the other way.

It must be remembered, however, that no guarantee against double taxation can be secured except by one of two methods: constitutional change, which we do not yet know how to effect, and *unanimous* agreement by all nine provinces. The Dominion can vacate a tax field quite simply, by its own action; the provinces can give no guarantee that any field in which they have rights will be effectually vacated, until all nine of them have agreed to vacate it. To vacate it permanently implies constitutional change. To vacate it temporarily is only "renting" it, and involves the unpleasant haggling process which we have been observing recently, and which will have to be repeated every three or five years.

We have great sympathy with the feeling of various provincial Governments, that the device of renting out part of their tax fields for "subsidies" is bad in principle, by making one authority responsible for collecting revenue and another for spending it. We should greatly prefer to see a defined area of the direct taxation field permanently vacated by the provinces, in exchange for the permanent vacating by the Dominion of another defined area. The present value of the succession duties is so high as to make the provinces unwilling to surrender it without a substantial subsidy in addition; but the extinction of large fortunes, which is now going on at a rapid rate, may within a lifetime greatly reduce that value, and the transaction will then become easier.

Useful Greetings

SOME of the seasonable greetings published by various Canadian business enterprises this year are of considérable public value as well as being expressions of good will from the enterprises themselves. A particularly good service has been rendered by the firm of Johnston, Everson and Charlesworth, in the shape of a booklet entitled "The Senate", in which are contained some sixty extracts from speeches in the Red Chamber during the past session. The Canadian public knows so little of the proceedings of this important body, and especially of the concern for the rights of the citizen which animates most of its debates, that these utterances will be a surprise to many who read them. Some of them indicate a faith in the Canadian people's devotion to liberty, which we hope is not misplaced. Senator Davies for example, speaking of the rise in newsprint prices following the abolition of controls, says: "I am quite sure that every newspaper publisher would rather pay $15 a ton more for his newsprint and be free." It may be so, but among other classes than newspaper publishers that


LESSON I
How to grow a new crop of Nazis
DEMOCRACY
CRAZY WARIETY
"The major decision on policy in the Western Zones turns on agreement ..at Washington...but... the British, independently of their Allies, have some drastic changes to make in their Zone... The present administrative structure is calculated to breed confusion at every point.—" says a wise weekly
LOW

RE-EDUCATION

Copyright in All Countries

is not always the answer to the choice between cash and freedom.

The Dominion Securities Corporation has also done a useful job in reprinting in booklet form the admirable series of articles on different aspects of the United Nations which it has issued in its monthly circular during the year. These articles are highly informative, authoritative and up-to-date, and should materially aid in the achieving of their avowed purpose, "to buttress the efforts of the United Nations to achieve in due time such a unity of the world in purpose and in law, that the passions which destroy shall give way to a universal zeal in expanding the frontiers of a more abundant life for all."

NIGHT CLASS, U. OF T.

ACROSS the darkened campus now they come,
Their paths converging toward the carven door;
From the long toil and heat of day, the hum
Of trade and traffic freed, students once more,
Ardent to share the centuries' rich lore,
And through those bright-famed corridors to roam,
They hasten toward the ancient treasure-store
As eagerly as wanderers nearing home.
O kindly Shades, receive them! Thou, who "took
All knowledge for thy province", turn thee now
In stately welcome to thy youthful kin;
Thou, Chaucer, whose lean clerk did love his book
Better than robes or gold; and thou, and thou—
Open that shining door, and bid them in!

ELIZABETH K. CAMPBELL

Gold and Trade

THERE are signs of a growing campaign in the United States for the resumption of the free coinage and circulation of gold. The Whaley-Eaton Service, a very influential Washington information bureau, has sent out a well-argued article entitled "Future of Gold," in which the efforts of the International Monetary Fund for the establishment of reasonably reliable parities between the different currencies of the world are criticized on the undeniable ground that all these parities are based on nothing more reliable in itself than a paper U.S. dollar. The United States, argues the article, should take the lead "to restore the first essential of sound, stable currencies—the free coinage and circulation of gold."

We should have nothing but the utmost enthusiasm for this proposal, if we thought there was the slightest chance that the United States would also pay some attention to the second essential of sound, stable currencies. That essential is that the country or countries possessing the largest share of the world's gold, and handling the largest share of international trade, should permit the freest possible inflow and outflow of commodities (other than gold) into and out from their territories. Throughout the period of the successful operation of the international gold standard, Great Britain had the largest share of the world's gold reserves, the world's banking and the world's commerce; and Great Britain was a free trade country. The standard broke down when the dominant position in gold holdings and trade was transferred to the United States. Gold ceased to be an effective international currency when nations which owed large amounts of it to the United States were unable to get it from that country because they could not sell their goods to American buyers.

The movement of gold is as effectually blocked when a country which has it is prevented from parting with it by obstacles to import of goods, as if there were direct obstacles to export of gold. The only other way in which that country can part with gold is by the importation of securities, promises-to-pay; and that merely ensures a reverse movement of gold, back to the original country, during the succeeding years, besides which there is a limit to the amount of securities that even a very gold-loaded country can absorb.

The Americans are about to be governed by a party with a strong high-tariff habit. For them to attempt to set up a gold dollar which would actually function as the basis for world currencies in general, without at the same time adopting something very close to free trade, would be utterly useless and probably dangerous. What prospect is there of their setting up anything even remotely resembling free trade?

Another Five-Cent Piece

ONE expects the leader of a provincial Progressive Conservative party, talking at a party meeting, to maintain that the Liberal Government of the Dominion is incompetent. That is an eminently proper part of the operations of the democratic parliamentary system of government. One does not expect the leader of such a party, being also the head of the Government of the province, to give the incompetence of the contemporary Dominion Government as the main reason why his own Government is unwilling to enter into a suggested arrangement about the use of fiscal powers between all the provincial governments on one side and the Dominion on the other. Either the arrangement is a desirable one in itself or it is not. The question of the competence, and even of the political stripe, of any Government involved should not enter into it at all.

Mr. Drew's observation last week reminds one very forcibly of what was probably the most unfortunate remark that Mr. King ever made—the "not a five-cent piece" remark about federal aid to provincial unemployment relief. Both remarks were made in an atmosphere of hot partisan conflict. Both would have been better left unsaid.

Mr. Drew's further remarks on the same occasion make it clear that he still looks for a permanent relocation of the taxing powers between Dominion and provinces. It must be remembered that any such relocation involves the vacating by the Dominion of some part of its present taxing powers, which by the B.N.A. Act are unlimited in all fields of taxation. It would be interesting to know what the federal Conservatives think of this proposal—and indeed what Mr. Drew would think of it if he were in the Dominion cabinet, which would then no longer be incompetent.

One trouble about our political life just now is that the Conservatives continue to act as if they never expected to be in power at Ottawa. That is all right for Mr. Duplessis, who runs a private Quebec party and never can be in power at Ottawa unless in collaboration with somebody else; but the Conservative party is still a national party and should be the natural alternative when the electors get tired of the Liberals. Yet the policies of the party continue to be set by its provincial rather than its national organizations.

Duplessis Politics

WE REGRET to have to record a strong suspicion that Mr. Duplessis's actions regarding the Witnesses of Jehovah are perfectly good politics so far as catching the votes of the great majority of the French-language electorate of his province is concerned. The Witnesses have undertaken to try to persuade French-speaking residents of the province that the doctrines and organization of the Roman Catholic Church—along with the doctrines and organization of all the Protestant churches and indeed of any variety of organized religion—are wrong and evil; and they have done so with noise and energy, in public places and at the doors of private homes. There is practically no indignation among French Canadians about Mr. Duplessis's method of dealing with what most of them regard as an invasion of their religious liberty—which liberty they regard as including the right not to be bothered by persons seeking to convert them to other views, even if the methods used for that purpose are in all respects lawful.

That the suppression of the Witnesses by methods other than those of the ordinary law and the ordinary courts is a menace to the whole structure of democratic institutions does not seem to occur to the majority of the electors of Quebec, or if it does it does not disturb them. If the party of Mr. Duplessis were part of a national political organization, and had therefore to consult opinion in other parts of Canada, there would probably be more restraint shown. But it has no relations outside of Quebec, and is therefore under no obligation or incentive to consult opinion outside of Quebec. The cause of national unity seems likely to receive one of the worst blows that have ever come to it, unless the Quebec courts themselves — in the higher branches of which we have a great deal of confidence—can manage to protect themselves and their functions from political interference.

CONCERNING DESKS

OH THE big Executive's desk is fair
In grained mahogany, rich and rare,
And they say he signs his letters there.

But never a letter is in sight
From the shine of noon to the shade of night,
And if any one comes it soon takes flight.

For the secretaries hanging about
Come daintily flashing in and out
To keep the mahogany clean, no doubt. . .

My desk is of oak, both stout and strong,
But I haven't seen it for ever so long
For papers piled and arranged all wrong.

No secretary in nylon hose
In high-heeled shoes without any toes
And with finger-nails like the blushing rose

Comes snooping around to snatch my stuff,
(Like the recent letter from Louis Blake Duff)
And lose its excellence in the rough.

For I look with the loftiest of smiles
On office order of office files
Which the Big Executive beguiles.

So my temper never beings to sizz
And never a scowl distorts my phiz
For I know at once where everything is.

The Oxford Dic., the Roget,
The Cruden, the Larousse,
The Fowler and the Fauchet
Are there for instant use;
The *Times*, the last *New Yorker*
The *Sat. Review of Lit.*—
The chaos is a corker,
But I am used to it.

J. E. M.

Why French Canada "Hates" Witnesses of Jehovah

By B. K. SANDWELL

The French Canadians have always regarded themselves as entitled to be protected against any effort to convert them from their faith, even if that effort was of a kind that would be lawful in other parts of Canada. Here is the root cause of the trouble about the Witnesses of Jehovah in Quebec. Protestant interest in the matter is confined to a desire that whatever is done should be in accordance with established law.

The proceedings in the courts have not greatly agitated public opinion, but the action of Mr. Duplessis in cancelling the license of a Montreal restaurant owner for putting up bail for accused Witnesses has created quite a storm.

THE root cause of the trouble about the Witnesses of Jehovah in the province of Quebec is that the French Canadians have always believed that they were entitled to be protected against efforts to proselytize among them by any non-Catholic religious or any anti-religious movement.

It is important to remember that in the early days of the British administration of Quebec the ruling authorities adopted a deliberate policy looking to the wholesale conversion of the French population to the tenets of the Church of England, through control and vigorous use of the educational institutions. It did not take the British long to learn that this effort was doomed to failure, and London abandoned it probably a generation before the English-speaking element in the colony (who of course were not the real source of power or holders of responsibility) gave it up also. After that the Quebec majority were never disturbed by anything except the missionary enterprises of private societies, and even these soon ceased to have the backing of the more conservative Protestant churches.

Furious Rioting

The visit to Quebec and Montreal of Gavazzi, an Italian ex-priest, in 1853 had little support from influential Protestants, but led to furious rioting in both cities. In the nine decades that have followed those events, the Salvation Army has at intervals felt called upon to dispute the religious supremacy of the Pope in French in public places in different parts of the province, and has run into a good deal of trouble in so doing; but hardly anybody else, and most of the time not even the Salvation Army, has undertaken to preach Protestant doctrines on the streets except in exclusively English-speaking areas.

It is quite fair to say that to the French Canadians the idea of religious liberty includes the idea of not being subjected to the persuasive efforts of other religious bodies, of any kind, to induce them to depart from their faith. This is the underlying assumption of the only letters which we have seen in the Quebec press supporting the policy of Mr. Duplessis regarding the Witnesses. The difficulty is to make this idea compatible with the concept of individual liberty as generally entertained in democratic countries, which certainly includes the right to proclaim one's religious ideas pretty widely, though within limitations imposed by the fact that one must not become a nuisance.

The Witnesses, like a good many other earnest fanatics, are entirely unbothered by any scruples about becoming a nuisance, and have unquestionably become one, in practice if not in law, in a good many parts of North America other than Quebec. Like the Communists, the other present objects of the "burning hate" of that province, they were restrained during the war because of their violent opposition to military service, and indeed to any other exercise of the civil power except such as suits their purposes; the Communists ceased to be opposed to service as soon as Russia found herself at war with Germany, while the Witnesses remained as much so as ever in real belief though they eventually accommodated their public teachings to the changed conditions of the times. As soon as the wartime restraints were lifted the Witnesses went to work with tremendous energy, and their distinct craving for martyrdom made Quebec a most attractive place for their efforts. The majority of French Canadians think that there should be some means by which the province of Quebec could stop them, and appear unconcerned as to whether those means are within the law or not. The majority of English-speaking Canadians are disposed to insist upon legality.

The criminal law is in the hands of the Dominion, and has not as yet defined sedition in such a way that there would be much hope of convicting the Witnesses on that charge. Mr. Duplessis holds that the recent pamphlet on the "burning hate" is so denunciatory of the character of the provincial government and the influences which predominate in it that this document is seditious if nothing else is; but he has not yet got any court to render such a decision, and in no other province is there any sign of a disposition to prosecute it. Meanwhile the Witnesses are being subjected to wholesale proceedings under laws forbidding the peddling of literature without a license (most of the Witness literature is offered for sale) and the distributing of handbills and circulars in public places, and there seems to be an attempt to wear down the few lawyers whom they have at their disposal by a series of successive postponements. Last week's decision by the Recorder of Quebec City was on the charge of creating a disturbance.

Legally Wrong

These things would probably have caused little excitement even among Protestant lovers of liberty in Quebec, if Mr. Duplessis had not conceived the idea of preventing the enormous number of Witnesses who are being prosecuted from getting bail, by using his power as Attorney-General to take away the restaurant license held by Frank Roncarelli, the wealthiest member of the sect in the province, and the habitual provider of bail for arrested Witnesses. Mr. Roncarelli has undoubtedly provided a great deal of bail for a great many persons, but the idea that there was anything wrong with that had never been put forward before. The bail is set by the courts, in accordance with their judgment as to what is most likely to aid the course of justice, and it seemed as though Mr. Duplessis was setting out in his capacity as Attorney-General to prevent that which the courts had authorized from becoming effective.

The further observation of Mr. Duplessis, that to continue Mr. Roncarelli's license would make the government a participant and abettor in the crime of sedition, obviously involved a pre-judgment to the effect that the Witnesses were guilty of sedition, whereas the whole theory of bail is based upon the democratic and British doctrine that an accused person is not guilty until convicted.

The curious thing about the whole business is that the Witnesses are certainly making a considerable number of converts among the French-speaking population of Quebec—as for that matter are also the Communists, the other form of revolt against ecclesiastical discipline which the general mass of French Canadian opinion also wants to suppress by police measures. If the Church of England or the United Church of Canada were to adopt the same missionary methods as these two bodies employ among the French population, the reaction of general French Canadian opinion would be exactly the same; but they do not. The reason for the difference is clear enough.

No Propaganda

The Church of England in Canada and the United Church of Canada are perfectly aware that they have to get along in the Dominion and in Quebec with a very powerful body of Roman Catholic adherents, and that they will get along with them much better if they do not propagandize among them. (There are missionary enterprises in French Quebec by both churches, but they are small and not obtrusive or publicly noisy.) It is improbable that any great number of members of either Protestant Church believe that their Roman Catholic fellow-citizens will go to hell if not converted; a good many may believe that the political ideas of these fellow-citizens are unsound, but it does not follow that the best means of combatting them is by efforts to change their faith.

The Witnesses and the Communists, on the other hand, do not have to get along with the Roman Catholics. They cannot do so anyhow. The Communists expect to effect eventually a revolution which will suppress the Catholic Church and probably also all the other churches—including those to which some of the Communists appear at present to belong. What the Witnesses expect is a little hard to determine, but at one time their doctrine included an early Second Coming of the Lord in which they would be rapt up to heaven and their enemies cast into the pit of everlasting fire. "Millions now living will never die."

Their Attitude

Protestants, and in the main English-speaking Roman Catholics, in Canada are apt to rely on their own personal efforts for the maintaining of their faith against the efforts of other kinds of believers to subvert it. In English-speaking North America the Witnesses have got into trouble with the authorities and with the public (and they have done so with both quite extensively, to the great benefit of their martyrdom complex) by reason of their attitude towards certain civil regulations, such as saluting flags and singing patriotic hymns in schools, rather than by their propagandism, which there is a general disposition to tolerate as the great majority of other propagandisms are tolerated. The nuisance laws have been invoked against them often, but they are extremely ingenious at remaining within them while continuing to do what the laws were intended to prevent.

It is difficult to make a law that will prohibit a Witness from ringing doorbells to offer literature and not prohibit a brush salesman from doing the same with brushes; yet the two operations are radically different both in motive and in social character. Similarly it is hard to prohibit a Witness from addressing a street meeting and not prohibit a Duplessis politician from doing the same. The French Canadian does not object to the Duplessis politician nor regard him as an enemy of the established order; he objects to the Witnesses and Communists and does regard them as enemies of the established order. But he is having a hard job finding a law that will draw the distinction that he desires.

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ADDRESS TO THE BUGGY

(On learning that new cars are on the way)

Wee, crabbit, clankin', auld tin-lizzie,
Wi' tires an' gaskets unco wheezy,
Wha gangs aboot in sic a tizzy
Wi' waefu' rattle!
If aught'll drive a body dizzy
'Tis certain that'll.

Ye've ay some paukie trouble brewin',
Wi' reekin' smeek an' vapours spewin',
Wi' muckle nuts and bolts undoin',
An' pistons draggin'.
Gae to the Deil an' flamin' ruin,
Ye blastie waggon!

STUART HEMSLEY

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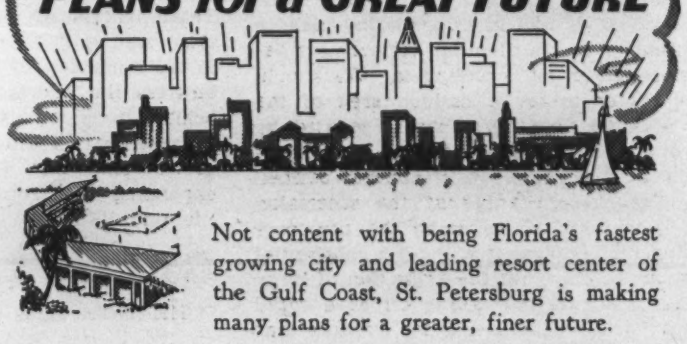

Not content with being Florida's fastest growing city and leading resort center of the Gulf Coast, St. Petersburg is making many plans for a greater, finer future.

The new plans include wide expansion of all utilities and services, new school buildings, a new auditorium, stadium, hospital, etc. Also improved parks including the 375 acre Lake Maggiore Park, and a great bridge across the mouth of Tampa Bay, connecting link in the Gulf Coast Highway.

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St. Petersburg FLORIDA

THE SUNSHINE CITY

B.C.'s Labor Prospects Brightening for 1947

By W. L. MacTAVISH

British Columbia anticipated labor trouble this year and got it. Nevertheless, the year will end with few strikes continuing and fairly good labor relations. There may be more strikes next year but at the moment the outlook is peaceful.

The most interesting factor is the number of strikes that didn't happen. Many tradesmen, such as carpenters, plumbers and longshoremen were in a position to demand anything in the way of wages and conditions. But negotiations were amicable and agreements speedily reached.

The author of this article is editor of the Vancouver Daily Province but is retiring from official newspaper work soon.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, perhaps the most strongly organized section of Canada from a union labor point of view, expected labor trouble in 1946, and had it.

Nevertheless British Columbia will end the year with virtually no strikes continuing, and reasonably good labor relations. There may be some new demands developing next year, but at the moment the outlook is peaceful. And, looking back over the year, British Columbia can note a most encouraging picture of strikes that didn't happen.

Just about the only remaining strike in progress is that of the I.T.U. printers of the Vancouver *Daily Province*, who were called out to enforce I.T.U. demands upon the newspaper publishers in Winnipeg. This, not a local grievance in any sense, is still a strike in progress. The *Province*, though publishing in normal fashion, is still picketed.

The largest union in British Columbia, the International Woodworkers of America, which embraces practically all men in the lumber camps, mills and secondary woodworking industries, was on strike for approximately three months. That strike represented a loss of $8,000,000 in wages to the workers, and deprived the industry of approximately 300,000,000 board feet of lumber for construction purposes. It hampered and reduced production also of the pulp and paper mills for a considerable period.

It was an unnecessary strike. The final settlement, on terms suggested by Chief Justice Sloan, called in as arbitrator, was for approximately 15 cents an hour, a figure which could have been arrived at by reasonable men in half an hour before the strike was called.

It is not easy in these matters to assess responsibility accurately, but it is true the strike pressure came mainly from the union side. The president of the I.W.A. in Canada is Harold Pritchett, native son of B.C. and a member of the Communist party. Several others of the officers of the I.W.A. are Communists. It is a C.I.O. union.

Mine Workers

The other large-scale strike was that of the Mine Workers. It did not extend to the Consolidated Smelting and Mining Corporation, which had come to terms with its employees, and which is the largest single employer of mine workers in the province. It did embrace nearly all the other gold and copper mines in B.C. and tied up their operations for almost five months. Agreement in this case was reached, also on the suggestion of Chief Justice Sloan, on a basis of 10½ cents an hour for general wages, payment of shift differentials and time-and-a-half overtime rates for work performed in excess of 44 hours in the week.

The terms are not greatly different from those offered by the mine operators before the strike began. This union in British Columbia is also Communist-led, the president being Harvey Murphy, or rather, known by that name instead of the unpronounceable Polish name he formerly bore.

Two B.C. gold mines have closed down, unable to pay the increased wage rate from the low-grade ore they were mining. All the others will be in full production shortly, if they can reassemble their crews, depleted by the transfer of men to other industries during the 21-week strike. In this they are being helped by a considerable influx of hard-rock men from Ontario and Quebec.

There was a strike also by foundry and iron workers, affecting a dozen large and small plants in Vancouver. It kept approximately 5,000 men from working for a period varying from three weeks to six weeks, and was settled at wage increases only slightly exceeding those offered by management before the strike began.

No Arbitration

The more interesting factor nevertheless is the number of strikes that have not occurred. Through long periods of the year there was a lively possibility of strikes in the construction trades, the longshoremen, the seamen, the street car and busmen, and the telephone and electrical trades. All of these were settled by the processes of negotiation and conciliation, without resort even to arbitration.

The position of the construction trades is worth particular mention. Construction in British Columbia has reached an all-time high. A survey by the Journal of Commerce in 27 B.C. centres shows more than $55,000,000 in construction projects undertaken in the first 10 months of this year, with a considerable carry-over from the previous year and perhaps an equal value in projects approved and ready when materials and labor are available.

Carpenters, bricklayers, stonemasons, electricians, plumbers, all the construction trades, were in a position to demand virtually anything they wanted in the way of wages and conditions. Practically all building contracts today are on a cost-plus basis, with labor and materials in such short supply that a firm contract price is almost impossible. New Westminster, for example, passed a by-law calling for spending $500,000 on a hospital addition and now finds it will cost a million and cannot get a firm contract even at that price.

Amicable

In spite of these conditions all that the construction trades asked for, and received, was a wage increase approved by the war labor board and not out of line with the increases in lumbering, generally 15 cents across the board. The negotiations were amicable and agreement speedily reached.

The longshoremen and seamen were considered a "hot spot" in labor relations. It was thought more than likely that the troubles in the United States maritime world would spread across the border. Through several weeks of quiet, unpublicized negotiations, satisfactory wage rates were arrived at without even a resort to arbitration, and the ports of Vancouver and New Westminster are busier than they have ever been. They are so busy in fact that crews of longshoremen have to be carefully allotted by an arbitration board sitting every morning, to see to it that each shipping company gets its fair place in the day's labor picture.

There is another strike that didn't happen. The big fishing and cannery companies reached terms with the fishermen and cannery workers through negotiation — long drawn out, but successful in the end. The salmon pack and the herring pack went into the world markets in good order.

The strikes that did not happen, of course, received far less publicity than those that did. People elsewhere, reading of the lumbermen's strike, and the mining workers' strike, and the foundry strike, might easily have acquired a picture of British Columbia as tied up completely by labor troubles. It just isn't so.

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ISN'T IT A BEAUT! IT'S OFF THAT BUSH YOU GAVE ME — REMEMBER, YOU BOUGHT IT FOR ME FROM BROOKDALE - KINGSWAY NURSERY

BROOKDALE-KINGSWAY NURSERY
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OTTAWA LETTER

Dominion-Provincial Bargaining Techniques Remain the Same

By WILFRID EGGLESTON

Ottawa.

LAST week the Canadian people were regaled with an almost constant stream of correspondence and public statements from various provincial capitals and from the national leader of the Progressive Conservative party, Mr. Bracken, all dealing with Dominion-Provincial relations and with the tax agreements being signed. The confusion deepened every day, because the statements were so contradictory. One day Premier Drew was reported as saying that Ontario would sign *no* agreement with the Dominion. Then this was modified, on further examination, as meaning that Premier Drew would sign no agreement harmful to Ontario. Next day Premier Drew was reported as saying that he did not seek a strong Ontario at the expense of the nation as a whole.

Premier Duplessis told an Ottawa reporter he awaited a call to Ottawa so that he could discuss an agreement but continued to voice a strident provincialism. Prime Minister King and Premier Macdonald exchanged correspondence. Various people called for a new Conference. John Bracken was reported as saying that Ottawa should offer "better terms", but there was widespread criticism that British Columbia had been given too good terms, and that any semblance of equity as between the several provinces had already disappeared.

One shouldn't be too uncharitable about these utterances. Anybody who follows Canadian politics knows that a certain amount of "double talk" is to be expected. When political leaders make statements or write letters, they have at least two purposes in mind: one, to convey information to the recipient, two, to convey another and perhaps a very different impression to the Canadian voter.

Indeed, if I were engaged to write a manual on how to compose public statements or letters on the subject of Dominion-Provincial Relations, I might be driven to advise provincial premiers something as follows:

1. If you have taken a strong stand denouncing the Ottawa offers, don't budge an inch. Otherwise you may lose face. Keep reiterating your original bold stand. No compromises.

2. Denounce all subsidies as a vicious device, but see if you can't bring political pressure to bear on Ottawa to boost their offer of subsidies to your own province.

3. Cloud the issue by alternating between loud paeans of praise of a strong national government, and exaltation of provincial governments as being "nearest to the heart of democracy" (and therefore to be guarded against the slightest encroachment on the part of a tyrannous centralized bureaucracy.)

Scuttling

4. If there is any way in which you can embarrass or scuttle the Ottawa government, do so. There are no limits on this activity. Be as obnoxious as possible, having in mind only the possibility listed in No. 5.

5. In view of the fact that Canada is a partnership of ten governments, that taxpayers don't like paying duplicate income tax, and that, therefore, you may in a few months be anxious to make some sort of deal advantageous to your own province. it is well to conduct all the above offensives in such a way as to keep a line of retreat open.

(However, on second thought, and speaking seriously for a change, I don't think such a manual is required. Too much proficiency along these lines is already manifest.)

The French have a proverb which, if I recall it aright, could be translated: The more things change, the more they remain the same. This is certainly true of Dominion-Provincial relations. The settlement with British Columbia, and the complaints that the principle of equity is being flouted, have a very familiar ring to any student of the subject. The Quebec Conference of 1864 itself nearly stranded on this issue.

Nor is that all. The story of Dominion-Provincial relations since confederation is largely a struggle to reconcile two conflicting principles which refuse to be reconciled namely, "strict per capita equity" as against "fiscal need".

In making financial arrangements with the provinces, it is quite impossible to satisfy fully both these values. It always has been: probably it always will be. One can have either one, but not both; or one can compromise between them. The latter is what has usually been done, and what, in its special provisions for certain provinces the Dominion seems again to be doing.

In passing, it should be observed that any attempt to stick strictly and logically to either extreme has proved a failure. At the Quebec Conference of 1864, an attempt was made to arrange absolute per capita equity in calculating the provincial subsidies. This proved impossible: and yet even the measure of per capita equity which *was* achieved resulted in placing the Maritime provinces in a strait jacket which soured Dominion-Provincial Relations for sixty years.

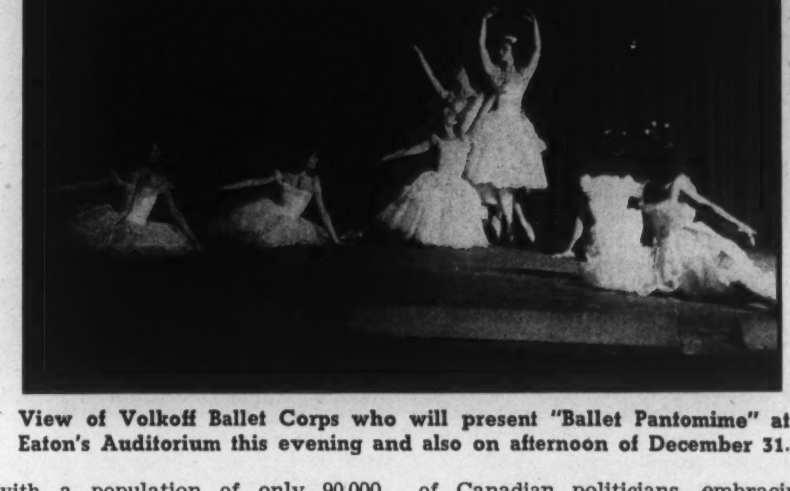
Fiscal Justice

In the Rowell-Sirois report, a bold reversal was made to the principle of "fiscal need". Everybody remembers the results. A strict application of "fiscal need" suggested a grant of $8 million a year to Quebec, smaller sums to several other provinces, none at all to Ontario, Alberta or British Columbia.

This may have been fiscal justice, but it was in turn a gross violation of "per capita" equity; it gave rise to a storm of bitter feeling; and it is very significant that the Proposals of 1945 dropped the idea of "fiscal need" and sought to return to the "per capita" equity as sought in 1864.

But the blunt fact is that unmodified "per capita" equity is not real equity at all, when it applies to nine units ranging from a province of four million people wealthy in all sorts of resources and in a state of industrial maturity, to an agricultural province, a "million acre farm", with a population of only 90,000. No formula which can be devised, so long as it rests on a strict "per capita" basis of grants, can possibly be adequate for the needier provinces without being much more than adequate for those wealthier provinces which need the surplus least.

These are the problems of principle; it must be added, as a realistic comment, that human nature being what it is, and party politics being what they are, nothing will stop the introduction of some elements of political bargaining also. So that bilateral agreements, or even adjustments to suit the peculiar needs of the several provinces, are, and are likely to continue to be, a blend of per capita equity, of fiscal need, and of political bargaining. Nor should people be too critical of such goings-on. Successive generations of Canadian politicians, embracing every one of the names famous and respected in Canadian history since Confederation, have engaged in precisely the same kind of attempts to find a satisfactory financial arrangement with the provinces. And *all* of them have blended per capita equity, fiscal need and political strategy in their negotiations.



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THE WORLD TODAY

First Postwar Year Ends With Welcome Relief of Tension

By WILLSON WOODSIDE

THIS festive season has been helped immeasurably by a succession of events which has brought to a war-weary, peace-torn world its first real release from tension.

The relaxation is due to a change of Soviet policy signalled by Stalin's statement given to Alexander Werth in early September that there was no real war danger and the Soviet Union was not in a capitalistic encirclement, contradicting the theme which he gave out last February. The foremost move was the proposal for the reduction of armaments introduced by Molotov in his opening speech to the United Nations Assembly.

Paralleling this was the series of concessions made in the Foreign Ministers' meeting which showed that the Soviets, who earlier were indifferent to the completion of the minor treaties if they could not have them written on their own terms, now wanted to see them completed on the best terms available. By setting a date, at last, for the vital German treaty and inviting the meeting to Moscow, they have indicated that they want to see this through, too, to a successful completion.

The same weeks have seen the Soviets drop their support for the separatist regime which they set up a year ago in Azerbaijan and carried through an international crisis last spring. The inference is that they did not want another such crisis at the present time. And in Greece they have now accepted a Security Council proposal to investigate the border fighting. While still disapproving of the step, they merely abstained this time whereas in September they vetoed it outright.

Conciliation Everywhere

A similar attitude has been displayed in the atomic discussion which Baruch was anxious to push through last week, to test the disarmament resolution.

Following on the reduction of garrison forces carried out in their zone of Germany during November, comes a report from Austria indicating that the Red Army may be preparing a complete evacuation of that country during the next half-year. Another development particularly gratifying to British official and public opinion has been *Pravda's* rebuke to *Red Fleet*, for the slur which that paper had cast on our convoy operations to Murmansk, and the latter paper's retraction of the offending article.

The latest development at the time of writing is *Pravda's* advice to the Turks that they no longer have any need to maintain a million men under arms, as they are under no foreign threat. Coming under present circumstances this looks like an intimation that the oft-reiterated demands for a radical modification of the Dardanelles convention are to be dropped for the time being.

When the Soviets decide on a change of policy, it certainly goes right down the line! This change clearly is intended to be unmistakable to us. In order to judge whether it represents a fundamental change to cooperation for world peace and order, or a temporary shift in tactics no more lasting than the recent phase of intransigence, it is necessary to seek out the reasons for it.

Two main ones press for recognition. There have been cumulative indications, in the Soviet press and in reports by foreign observers, of great economic difficulties in Russia. Anyone who has seen the ruin in Germany and studied the problems which British, Americans and Germans face in trying to restart economic life there, can well imagine the similar difficulties which must exist all through ruined Western Russia, the most highly developed part of the country embracing almost half of the population.

Are Credits the Answer?

For the past couple of months I have had the feeling that the Soviets were again contemplating the aid which American credits could bring them in rehabilitating their factories in this area, as U.N.R.R.A. has already helped to relieve food and medical needs.

If American credits are to be obtained — and Vishinsky told a New York audience before he went home: "We need credits and the capitalists need good interest for these credits"— the climate has to be prepared for the granting of them.

The second main reason appears to be a politico-military one. The unmistakable effect of crying up a war danger and a "capitalist encirclement," of pushing claims in Iran and on the Dardanelles, instigating a border war in Greece and possibly encouraging Tito to test our determination at Trieste by shooting down American planes, has been to throw the British and Americans closer together, and stimulate their experimentation in new and highly technical arms.

To the men of the Kremlin Montgomery's visit to Canada and the United States, where he discussed standardization of their arms with the British; the American naval parades in the Mediterranean; and the unification of the British and American zones in Germany, may have been the most important events of the year and the loudest arguments for a change of Soviet policy.

With the Republican electoral victory in the United States (which their radio propagandists sought ineffectively to avert) the Soviet leaders were presented with two possibilities. It could mean an increasingly anti-Soviet trend to American policy abroad and anti-Communist crackdown at home, if the tension were maintained. Or it could mean, with a relaxation of the tension and a cooperative Soviet attitude, encouragement of the strong desires which the Republicans have shown for fiscal economy (which can only be realized on a substantial scale by cutting into the military budgets), and of tendencies which Moscow may judge to be still latent in the Republican Party, towards isolationism.

With the "free economy" group back in the saddle in Washington, the Soviets may hope that the eagerness of these people for foreign markets and, as they may think, their greed for profit, may work in favor of credits for Russia, provided the international situation appears favorable.

Further domestic reasons for the Soviet change of policy may be hazarded. One of these, a severe shortage of skilled labor, needs no guesswork, for it is documented in the Soviet press. Just as in Germany, the war losses were concentrated in the most productive male age group of the population. There must be a need in Russia, therefore, to reduce the millions under arms representing a drain on the production of the remainder, and train the new youth for industry instead of soldiering.

The occupied territories, already thoroughly milked, probably can no longer feed and supply the huge Red Armies garrisoned on them. And occupation presents the Soviet authorities with a pressing political problem. The many stories of widespread desertion testify that men kept there too long become "corrupted." But is it a better solution to keep changing them constantly, thus introducing ever more hundreds of thousands of Soviet youth to the strikingly different conditions of life outside the walls of "paradise?" Enough dissatisfaction has been caused already by the millions of combat soldiers who have gone home with the story.

A New Estimate

Summing up, it seems that the Soviets find that through the policy of firm patience which Bevin and Byrnes have followed, their best postwar opportunities have passed. Europe has not "gone Communist" as they clearly expected it would after the war, and the political situation in the occupied countries has not developed as favorably as they hoped while economic life has been so disrupted that these territories can no longer support large armies of occupation.

Meanwhile they find that they need their manpower at home, and need machinery from the Western powers to carry out their new Five Year Plans. They may also need some consumer goods, and at least need to relieve their people of war jitters, to stabilize the domestic situation.

Taking a long term view they may believe that a period of relaxation of tension will allow them to build up their own position more rapidly while lulling the Western powers into disarmament, — and perhaps above all bringing an American retreat from Asia. Meanwhile, they may believe their theories that the capitalist system must go on "disintegrating," and offering them new opportunities some years hence.

To think that the Soviets had suddenly abandoned all the theories, plans and schemes of three decades would be extremely naive. Yet I believe that the current development shows a basic trend in our favor. They have fallen far short of the immense gains which they expected to make in Europe and Asia out of the chaos of war. Millions of their people now know first hand and more millions by hearsay of the better living conditions in the outside world. Tens of millions know of our aid during the war and since, and must therefore doubt a little the propaganda which they have been fed of our unalterable hostility.

How to let these people know that it is only the aggressive plans of the Soviet dictatorship which we oppose, while desiring the friendship of the Russian people, poses us a problem strikingly similar to that in Spain. Yet we shall soon hear amongst us those same elements who accuse Britain and the United States of supporting Franco's dictatorship by trade relations, clamoring for aid which will have the effect of strengthening the grip of the Soviet dictatorship over the Russian and annexed peoples.

The relaxation of Soviet pressure is welcome, but it does not solve all our problems.

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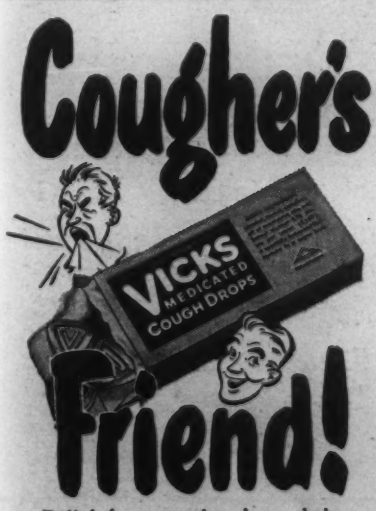

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THE LIGHTER SIDE

Unfinished Business

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

THE YEAR has come and almost gone; and having crossed the first anniversary of the Atomic Age we're still lucky enough to be alive. It's been a disturbing year, distinguished by strikes, lockout, shortages, international threats, talking dogs and cats, walking Soviet delegates, the arrival in America of Existentialism and the disappearance of the O.P.A. On the whole, however, it's been better than some of us feared, which is probably the best that most of us can expect.

The U.N.'s foundations still look pretty shaky, but at least it has the promise of a roof over its head. Senator Connally has announced that he will be glad to shake the hand of Mr. Molotov. The United States has volunteered the information that it has 550,000 men in its Army, and the United Kingdom has admitted to having less than a million. The Soviet apparently is still busy counting noses. On the whole, things are so much brighter that we can now stop worrying over the immediacy of World War III and concentrate on the prospect of World Depression II.

There have been minor triumphs and defeats along the way. Secretary of Commerce Wallace lost out to Secretary of State Byrnes, Marshal Tito had less than his own way over Trieste, President Truman won out over John L. Lewis and the Remington Rand calculating machine was defeated by the abacus. There may be return matches in all these departments but at least they can be allocated to next year's agenda.

Meanwhile the huge volume of 1946's unfinished business continues to pile up on the world's desk. It is futile, of course, in the last few days of the year, to fret over unfinished business in India, Greece, Iraq and Palestine. It's probable that these, along with General Franco, will continue to occupy their respective pigeon-holes for years to come. There are, however, a number of smaller items that have turned up in the news to nag at one's concern or curiosity. They aren't particularly important but I wish someone with the time and the access to the right sources would clear some of them up before 1947 sets in.

AS A CITIZEN of the Province of Ontario I'd like to know, for instance, whom I am to pay my taxes to after March, 1947. To the Federal Government? To the Provincial Government? To both? Will double taxation Keep Ontario Strong? Will it even keep Premier Drew very strong if he insists on going through with it?

When I get through paying my taxes will there be enough left over for a cocktail in one of Premier Drew's promised cocktail lounges? Or maybe two or three cocktails to make me forget at least from five o'clock till six that I am being put through the fiscal wringer twice?

What does the Toronto City Council intend to do with its Cocktail Plebiscite, when it gets it? Does it expect to satisfy both Wets and Drys with the results, even if the figures are calculated on a Remington Rand and counter-checked on an abacus?

Then there is the question of shortages. We're well into our second postwar year now and we'd like to get back to something like a pre-war basis. We're not looking for the television sets, the creaseless, moth-proof unshrinkable woollens, the radar fishing equipment and the frozen dinners complete with digestible plates that we were promised during the war years. In fact we'd be glad to commute our future stake in these wonders for one generous round of soap-flakes and men's shirts. We'd also like to know what happened to all those public groups and citizens who vowed in October to fight the distributors and restore milk to its thirteen cents a quart price-level. ("It'll be twenty cents by spring," said my milkman this morning, pocketting my sixteen-cent ticket.)

We'd appreciate follow-up stories on all the people who turned up on the front pages in 1946 and then vanished again with their fate and future undisclosed. What happened to all the beauty contest winners, and, in particular, what became of the male contestant who was awarded the title of Mr. Montreal? How is King George of Greece enjoying his repatriation, and King Victor Emmanuel his exile? Are the new Canadian Poles happy in their transplantation? Are the ex-Bikinians satisfied or do they sometimes long for their former island, where nobody owned a concrete cistern or a prefabricated hut?

HAS the Ukrainian delegate who was wounded in a delicatessen hold-up recovered, and does he still believe that he was attacked by a political finger-man sent from Washington? Is Composer Shostakovitch still following his own wayward inspiration or has he settled down to the blueprint of political composition supplied by *Culture and Life?* Is Marshal Stalin enjoying his usual health, and if so why didn't he turn up at the celebrations on the anniversary of the October Revolution? Was Mr. Stalin's absence the Party's idea? Was it his own? Is it possible to review military parades ninety-nine times with delight and discover on the hundredth occasion that standing at salute for hours on end, on a high and drafty eminence, is just not worth a sensible man's time. ("Hell, if you've seen one you've seen them all.")

There are a number of 1946 police mysteries as well that have disappeared from the public press, leaving plenty of unappeased public curiosity. What became of the ration books that vanished that evening in September? Any fresh clues on the disappearance of the Duchess of Windsor's jewels? Who killed John Dick? Have all the phoney five dollar bills been called in, and have the police located the painstaking artist who made the original engravings?

And on the wider international scale, where is the Polish Treasure, or any part of it, at the present moment? And what happened to the investigation into the source of the rocket projectiles that fell on the coast of Sweden?

What's become of our Canadian National Flag? And how does it expect to defy the battle and the breeze for the next hundred years if it can't even pass a civil service examination?

Has anyone had any word from Sam Carr recently?

See what I mean? If someone would just get busy and clear away the accumulated detritus of 1946 news, we might make a much tidier start in 1947.

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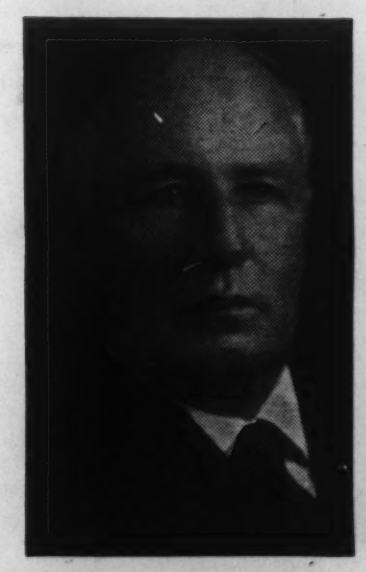

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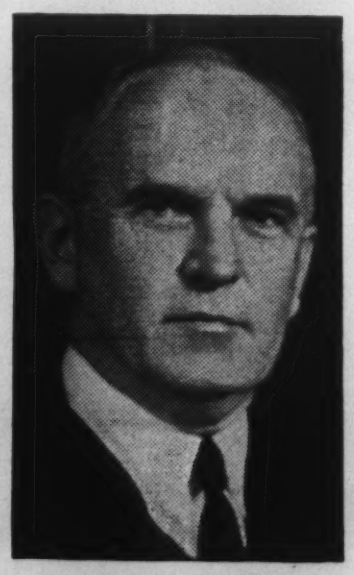

MORLEY AYLSWORTH

Directors of The London and Western Trusts Co. have approved a proposed agreement with The Huron & Erie Mortgage Corp. and its affiliate, The Canada Trust Co., which will bring the business and assets of the two trust companies under the presidency of Mr. Morley Aylsworth. The Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, K.C., P.C., was elected president of The London and Western Trusts Co. in 1932.

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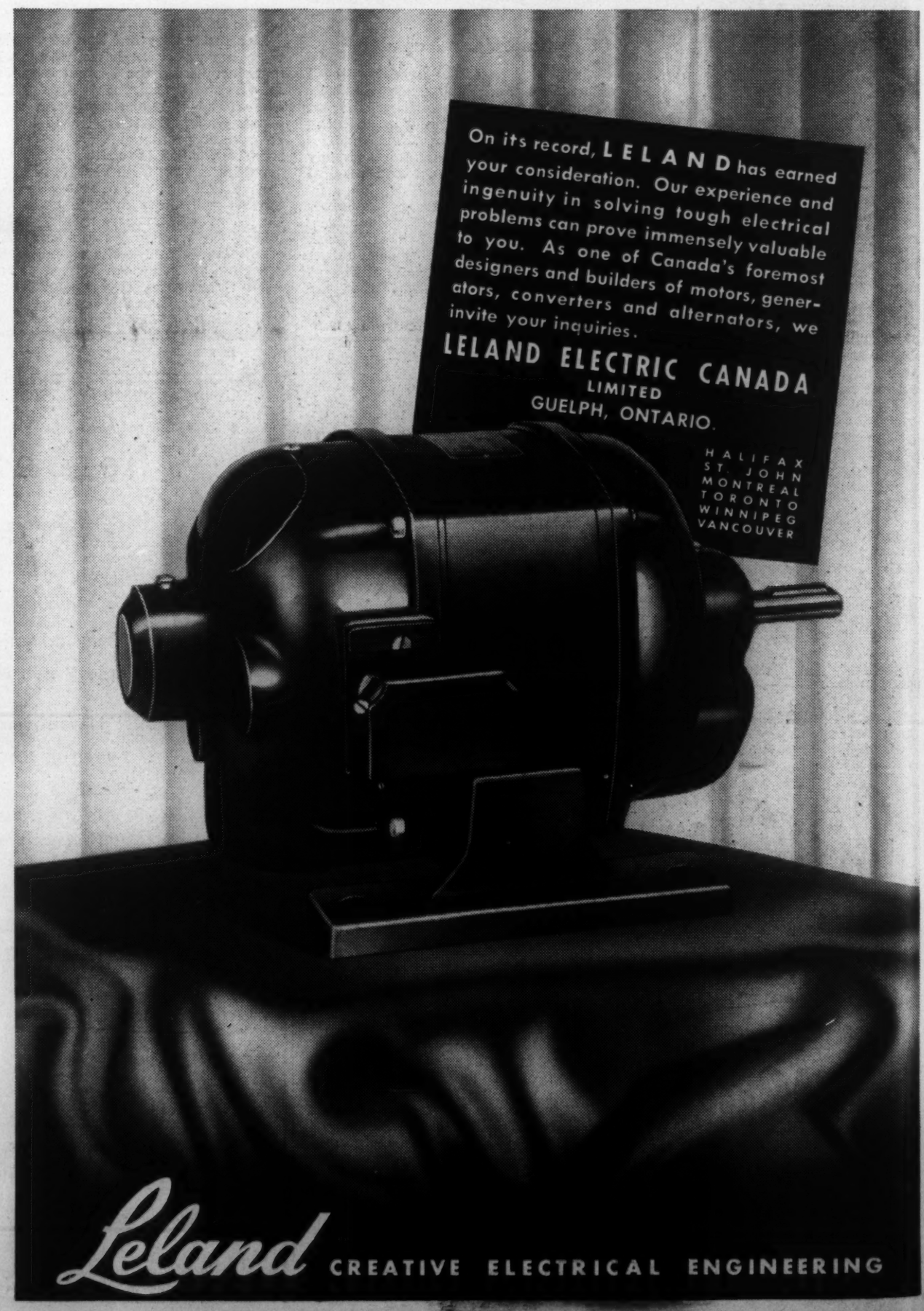
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WASHINGTON LETTER

Real Estate Men and Vets Differ on Relaxed Housing Control

By JAY MILLER

Washington.

THE EFFORT of the White House to "houseclean" one of the most pressing national issues, veterans' housing, before the 80th Congress convenes on January 3, may dim somewhat the current lustre of President Truman's political star.

The real estate men like his efforts to lift controls from building but the veterans expect they will not increase the production of homes. One critic, Norton Long, former aide to Wilson W. Wyatt, both of whom quit in protest against administration housing plans, went so far as to say the new Truman housing policy "isn't any program at all," but is an invitation to a real estate boom or bust.

The President's effort to solve the housing muddle may not provide the solution, but it does represent a forthright attempt to get housing, along with the rest of the national economy, out from under the restriction of controls. Mr. Wyatt had insisted that the housing situation is so grave that it necessitated continued rigid controls and the expenditures of some $60 million by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to underwrite the production of prefabricated housing for veterans. He clashed with the White House bard, George Allen, of the R.F.C. on this latter proposal.

Major provisions of the Truman housing plans certainly do not stress the construction of homes for veterans, although the President believes that if private enterprise is given a free rein that will be the ultimate effect of his proposals. He has wiped out the restriction which confined all home building for personal occupancy by veterans, eliminated the housing priorities system, removed the $10,000 sales ceiling on new homes, and modified the order limiting non-residential construction.

The organized real estate interests chalk up the Truman proposals as "a step in the right direction" and they predict an upsurge in home and apartment construction. On the other hand, Mr. Long contends, and with possibly considerable reason, that the sweeping relaxation of controls will mean more $15,000 and $20,000 homes, but few that a veteran can afford. Until recently, offers of $18,000 for homes that once cost only $9,000 have been common. Mr. Long believes that "the real estate people will take a flyer into high-priced houses and many builders will go in for stores, shops and amusement places."

The former Wyatt aide was in charge of programs and he is convinced that it will become increasingly difficult to enforce the few controls left in the regulation. Some allocation will be continued on scarce raw materials and a limitation will be retained on non-housing construction. These, according to Long, will have to go the way of price controls, which went overboard almost completely after meat was decontrolled.

Wyatt defenders contend that the Truman policy will actually get credit for improvement in home building resulting from the former housing expeditor's efforts. The program has arranged for the construction of around a million homes in 1947, about half of which are under construction, with completions coming through at the rate of 100,000 a month.

Mr. Truman is most hopeful that his program will assist veterans by producing more rental housing. Any one may build a home for his own occupancy but the President has prescribed that builders obtain Federal permits and set up certain other requirements to curb luxury building. War veterans will continue to get preference for every dwelling constructed for sale or rent, but the rental ceilings have been rescaled. An "average" monthly rental of $80 for all units in any new housing project will be permitted. The individual unit ceiling, heretofore, has been $80.

Vigorous Program

In a 1,500-word statement outlining the new program, Mr. Truman expressed his determination to push a "vigorous housing program in 1947." He declared that the techniques to be used are "those that will work today." He conceded that veteran needs are extremely urgent.

The new plan was shaped in a series of White House conferences in which the President went over the problem in detail with housing officials, Cabinet members, R.F.C. officials, and Mr. Wyatt before he resigned in a dispute with other agency heads whom he accused of blocking his program.

Observers believe that Clark Clifford, the new "strong man" at the White House, had more than a small part in prevailing upon President Truman to remove housing controls. Mr. Clifford, lawyer and former navy man, came into the Truman inner circle as an assistant naval aide, and has proven so useful that he was appointed principal "ghost-writer." He is said to have helped the President to formulate a firm policy against John L. Lewis.

The Truman program follows to a great extent the recommendations of the real estate and construction industry. Private builders contend that more homes will be built without Government restrictions than with them. Accordingly, every control that has been removed, represents a reversal of the former Wyatt program.

The President has retained certain special measures in his housing plan, such as apprentice training in the building trades to head off a shortage of manpower. The Administration also plans to foster mechanical research and "above all" steps to reduce permanently the cost of housing, most notably by aiding manufacturers of new materials and factory-built homes."

The President also concedes "there [illegible] need for schools and stores and other community facilities in connection with new housing developments and for certain essential industrial and research projects." The greatly increased volume of building materials will permit this type of non-housing construction.

Checks imposed on home builders include production of homes for year-round occupancy and restriction of the total floor space. The priority system, which holds industrial and commercial construction over the whole nation to $35 million monthly is expected to be boosted to $50 million by the industry, which wants all remaining controls to come off building, preferably within six months.

Private Enterprise

Although he proposes financing aids to builders, the President is hopeful that private enterprise will carry the bulk of the financing burden.

The President will, incidentally, seek in the new Congress, more legislation along the lines of the Wagner-Ellender-Taft long-range, low-rent housing bill. To further the erection of rental housing, the National Housing Agency is arranging at once to confer locally and regionally with builders and lenders to survey rental housing needs of the respective areas.

Veterans throughout the nation are without homes and they have threatened to follow the example of Canadian and British ex-servicemen and claim "squatters' rights" on all vacant homes. The American Veterans Committee warned that "our homeless veterans" may take over summer estates and boarded-up Fifth Avenue brownstones unless we move now—all of us, veterans and non-veterans, producer and consumer—to break the housing bottlenecks.

Although the American Legion favored the end of housing controls and adoption of its own housing program for veterans, three other leading veteran groups were dismayed by the White House action in killing the Wyatt veterans housing program. Spokesmen for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Amvets and American Veterans Committee, told the Senate Small Business Committee that the channeling of materials into housing constructions, with ceilings on rents and retention of new-home price controls, were essential to the housing program. Without them, they asserted, the former G.I.'s of World War II just wouldn't get any housing.

The veteran who has scanned real estate ads in the hope of buying a farm cheap has been frustrated by the high prices of farm land, which according to Agriculture Secretary Anderson is reaching a dangerous boom stages.

Mr. Truman is confident that the veteran will get homes, and he points out that the success of his housing plans depend not on the Federal government alone, but also on State and local governments, industry, labor and financial institutions.

Canadian Food Products Appoints New Director

Mr. W. P. Scott was elected to the Board of Directors of Canadian Food Products Limited at a meeting held on December 5th, 1946.

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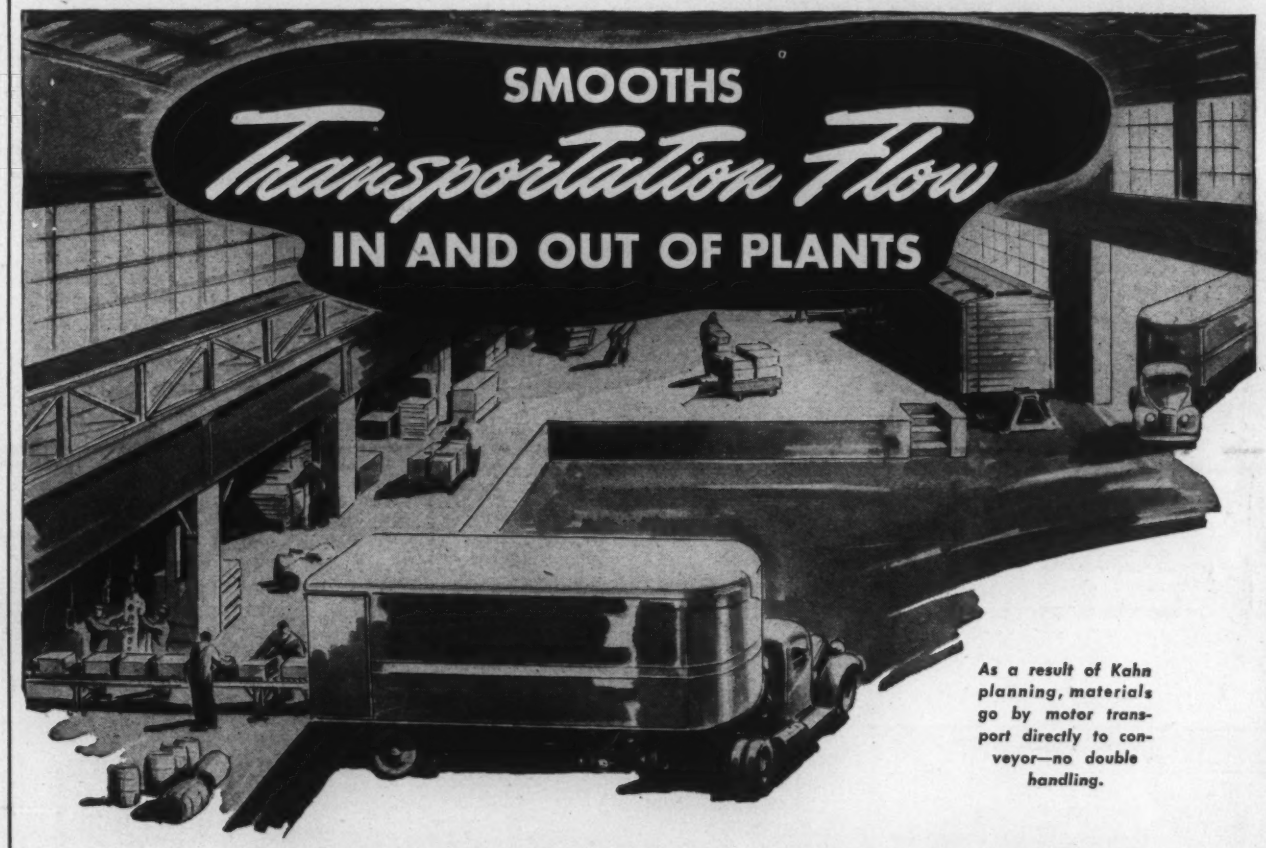

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MUSICAL EVENTS

Opera School's Work Pleases and Heralds Even Brighter Future

By JOHN H. YOCOM

A SIGNIFICANT climax to the musical year of 1946 in Toronto —time may prove it significant for all Canada—was last week's program by the Toronto Conservatory of Music's Opera School, a department of the Senior School. Somehow after only eight weeks of rehearsal Canada's first School of the Opera gave an invited audience of 500 in Hart House Theatre an amazingly enjoyable evening with a program of operatic excerpts from "Othello", "La Bohème", "Faust", "Fidelio", "Der Rosenkavalier" and "La Traviata".

The directors had picked not only good scenes from the point of view of holding an audience's continued and unrelaxed attention but a balanced set of opera workshop pieces for varied training in the form. But the significance of the performance did not stop at Hart House; in effect, it was a vista down which one could look and, not far distant, see greater things to come—a full length opera by the school in the spring, a healthy future for opera in Canada.

The performance of the excerpts showed teamwork of the highest order by Dr. Arnold Walter, director of the school, Nicholas Goldschmidt, the conductor, Felix Brentano, the producer, the large cast of leads and chorus—including 18 ex-servicemen studying under the D.V.A. rehabilitation plan—and the accompanying duo-pianists. At times (e.g., the prisoners' chorus in "Fidelio") we sensed even emotional participation by the audience, something which the Met doesn't always get.

Simple Settings

Here were no rich settings, no great spectacles, no ballets to relieve plot entanglements. But with the barest of settings and mostly in modern dress, with Dr. Walter introducing the scene, the excerpts were completely credible, even in foreign languages. Gestures and movements rang true; careful voice training again paid dividends. The occasional voice deficiencies in solo parts were easily overlooked. Certainly there were none in the "Freedom" chorus of "Fidelio" when the innocent prisoners came out of their dungeon into the fresh air and sunlight of the prison yard. In the closing scene of Act I of "La Bohème" the acting of Mimi (Mary Morrison) and Rudolfo (Earl Dick) had professional-like touches of light humor, their singing of the Puccini arias and the love duet charming. Rudolfo meets Mimi who has stumbled into his room in a faint. After reviving her with wine and gay banter, he takes her to a restaurant.

The duelling scene from "Faust", after the long mock serenade by Mephistopheles (Andrew MacMillan), and the gambling house scene from "La Traviata", when Alfredo (Ronald Stewart) jealously throws his winnings at his stricken lover Violetta (Diana Thomson), had the tight unity found in good one-act plays. Strauss' colorful and exceptionally rich music in the scene from "Der Rosenkavalier" needed an orchestra. The "Othello" scene, in which Desdemona (Elizabeth Benson Guy) fearfully awaits her husband to come and avenge his honor with her death, was the most difficult for dramatic portrayal by a student. The acting demands handicapped the vocal interpretation, but nevertheless Miss Guy showed an ability to grasp an operatic role which will improve as her repertoire grows.

The show was true musical theatre because it had talent, sincerity and the enthusiasm and good looks of youth in its cast and a broad professional knowledge, plus a fresh approach, in its directors. In spite of the obstacles of economy and convention, methods and standards for the future of opera in Canada are being worked out by Walter, Goldschmidt and Brentano. And the future certainly seems bright. Financial support is a question too large to discuss here. But would it be too much to hope that some day there will be a national opera house, with orchestra, chorus and ballet, on a sound basis? Such a scheme would make opera much more nearly self-supporting, would induce the well-trained young singers to consider staying in Canada instead of going elsewhere, would encourage the performance of new works and the commissioning of opera compositions by Canadians.

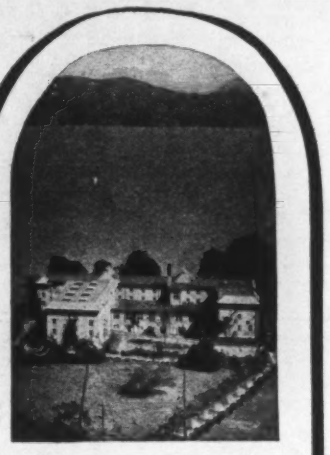
Rudolfo (Earl Dick) and Mimi (Mary Morrison) in "La Boheme" excerpt.

Seldom does a new hymn make a stir, even with plugging, but one recently written by the well-known Canadian singer Wishart Campbell, M.B.E., ex-R.C.A.F. entertainment officer and director of music at station CFRB, Toronto, and Wallace MacAlpine, ex-R.C.A.F. aircrew member of Lindsay and Toronto, might do just that. Written as a majestic march with words that refreshingly avoid the all-too-familiar clichés, "Lead Us, O God" carries a prayer for divine direction in our confused times.

MacAlpine and Campbell first met during the war at an east coast R.C.A.F. station where a camp show was being readied. But MacAlpine was posted to operations overseas before the opening. When he dropped in on Campbell some time ago with samples of his verse, the singer had a hunch that he was the man to write words for a hymn tune he had created. The

Wishart Campbell

The Opera School's excerpts program included the last scene from Act III of "Faust". Valentin (David Hughes) and Faust (Bertrand Rawlyk) duel while trouble-making Mephistopheles (Andrew MacMillan) watches.



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THE FILM PARADE

Thanks to Laurence Olivier 1946 Is Something of a Record

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

WITHOUT "Henry V.", 1946 might have been just an average film year, marked by the usual high level of screen technique and the usual conservative estimate of public intelligence. The Laurence Olivier screen drama, however, so enlarged the whole field of imaginative cinema that the year itself becomes something of a record. Whether Olivier's special innovations are adaptable to popular screen entertainment doesn't matter. He proved something that the commercial screen has always been a little reluctant to accept—that the field of successful film experimentation is wide open to men of talent and imagination.

The rest of the year's output from the British studios ranged even more widely than usual in quality. There seemed to be no indifferent English pictures in 1946. If they weren't very good they were awful. On the one hand there were such first-rate films as "Vacation from Marriage", "Blithe Spirit", "Brief Encounter", "Dead of Night", and "Caesar and Cleopatra". On the other we were offered such melodramatic rubbish as "Wicked Lady", "Caravan", and "Madonna of the Seven Moons", along with the depressingly tasteless "Notorious Gentleman". Mr. J. Arthur Rank, who seems to control the British film output, has decided apparently that no picture in these affluent times is bad enough to go begging for a public, while the judicious good film can be trusted to correct any sag in British prestige. It is an ingenious cash-and-credit system, and it seems to work extremely well.

Formula for Sleeping

The Hollywood output has been on the whole more even in quality. The downright bad picture is relatively rare, largely because Hollywood standards of technique and budgetting are kept high. If Hollywood films send you to sleep, it isn't because they are dully photographed and cheaply produced. It's because they operate on a trusted formula so that you can drop off at any point without losing touch with the story. Even when films are good they are still good within a rigid formula, which lays down both the behavior of the characters and the sort of fate their behavior leads to. Thus "The Story of G.I. Joe" and "A Walk in the Sun" were exceptionally fine war pictures with passages of genuine perception and eloquence. But the drama didn't shape itself inevitably about the characters; the characters themselves were deftly fitted into the drama, each with his particular equipment of gestures and idiosyncrasies to keep him firmly in his place in the pattern. The standards of such pictures are high. But they are still highly standardized pictures.

Murder mysteries may not be an imperishable form of art, but they are still the most interesting pictures that Hollywood turns out. "The Blue Dahlia", "The Spiral Staircase", "Cornered", "The Strange Love of Martha Ivers", "The Killers" and "The Big Sleep" are all in a sense factory-made products, put together with a formidable amount of mechanical ingenuity. But there is something about their pace and reckless violence that seems to excite the latent talent of everyone engaged in them. As a result they develop a special quality, a sort of fierce derisive vitality that makes them always interesting and sometimes a little frightening to watch. It is this self-engendered excitement which sets them apart from all other formula products—the Cinderella romances, the big musicals top-heavy with talent, the "women's fiction" dramas which spread listlessness like a fog over both audience and cast, and practically all the recent comedies except the ones enlivened by Danny Kaye.

In the pre-war days a film that could fill a downtown theatre for a second or third week was a trade sensation. Today any picture that doesn't rate a holdover is an admitted flop; for money is easy and the movies are always available. The wonder is that the industry, with so little to challenge its security, continues to keep up its rigorous standards of production. Week after week it goes on turning out films that fairly glitter with style and know-how, however empty they may sometimes be of content. In this respect 1946 was well up to standard. Outwardly at least the year's films were uniformly agreeable to look at. No matter what Hollywood presents it always manages to see that its offering is handsomely packaged and gift-wrapped.

It takes a topnotch director to make reasonable entertainment out of the ingredients that went into "My Darling Clementine". These included a renegade saloon keeper, a pretty floozie who adores him and charms the bankrolls out of the customers' pockets for his sake, a band of outlaws who ride in to shoot up the town on Saturday nights, and a dogged but valiant sheriff who brings law and order to the community by shooting most of its prominent citizens. John Ford, who admires both landscape and action and knows how to keep both elements from getting in each other's way, was responsible for "My Darling Clementine". Along with his cast—Henry Fonda, Linda Darnell and Victor Mature—he has freshened his frayed material so admirably that he can almost convince you the trouble was worth his time and yours.

SWIFT REVIEW

THE SEARCHING WIND. Lillian Hellman's anti-isolationist drama which rubs in, indignantly and at some length, an error that no one is likely to forget. With Robert Young and Sylvia Sidney.

THE BIG SLEEP. Murder and double and triple-crossing, and very exciting if a little confusing. With Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall.

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS. Barbara Stanwyck and Van Heflin both at their best and a tough and violent melodrama.

THEY WERE SISTERS. James Mason, the celebrated screen misogynist, drives another film heroine crazy with his brutal behavior.

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LONDON LETTER

To Save Space British Peacetime Army Should Train in Canada

By P. O'D.

London.

FROM all over the country come protests against the retention by the Army authorities of training-grounds requisitioned during the war, and of still others constantly being taken over or threatened. If the War Office is allowed to do as it wants in this matter, there will soon be precious little left in the way of free open space. But it is hard to see how the fiery dragon is to be kept from scorching what earth it pleases—so long as the nation feels obliged to keep such a creature about.

In a country the size of Canada there would be no problem. There is plenty of room for any kind of battle-practice, however extensive. Here, on the contrary, there is very little room; and so we find lovely places in Wales and Devon and all about the country being taken over and more or less ruined, so far as what are called the "amenities" are concerned. There is in fact an entire blackout of amenity, for the public is barred from visiting these places, modern battle-practice being only a little less dangerous than actual war.

The "Big Brass Hats" are in a very strong position in this matter. Parliament, they point out, has decided on a large standing army, for reasons which must be obvious to almost anyone. No army is any good unless it is properly trained, and you can't train a modern army in the barrack-square.

Some of the critics, remembering the Empire training-schemes during the war, have proposed that the peacetime army should also be trained in the Dominions—really in Canada. But though the Canadian Government would no doubt be willing to cooperate in any way possible, the objections to such a plan are immense and insuperable. The cost alone would rule it out.

Publicly Spanked

If ever a Socialist borough council stuck out its silly red neck too far, it is surely that of the Willesden area of London, which recently sacked all the nurses and the resident medical officer of the municipal hospital, because they had refused to join a union. Some of the nurses had been there for more than 20 years, but that apparently made no difference.

It is, by the way, a nice question what union a medical officer could be expected to join. Possibly some branch of the plumbers' union—or would it be the gravediggers? As a member of the British Medical Association every doctor already belongs to one of the tightest and most jealously guarded trade unions in existence. But then of course it is not allied to the T.U.C.

The civic fathers of Willesden must have been considerably startled at the effect of their decision—rather like a group of naughty boys who had put a firecracker on the track and very nearly derailed an express train. There has been the most terrific screeching of brakes and jolting of carriages. Eminent Socialist passengers have piled out and grabbed the young offenders, and laid them across their knees, and publicly applied the political slipper where it would do most good.

Altogether it has been an exhilarating and salutary performance—the castigation, I mean—and the next Socialist borough council that is looking around for a new place to exercise the sacred principle of the "closed shop" will probably display a lot more caution. They will at least leave doctors and nurses alone.

New Concert Hall Wanted

It is a little hard to see how St. Cecilia came to be established as the patron saint of music—and especially of the organ, which wasn't invented for many centuries after her death. But that is how Raphael painted her, young and lovely and virginal, sitting in the clothes of a Renaissance lady at the organ; and that is how the world has ever since thought of her. After all, why should the historical fact of her having been a Roman martyr of the second century be allowed to spoil so charming a picture?

Her recent festival was made the occasion in London of a great concert at the Albert Hall, attended by the Queen, and also of a public luncheon at which the Prime Minister spoke, and verses by the Poet Laureate were read. All of which has led some of the more practical enthusiasts to suggest that the best way of showing devotion to St. Cecilia and the great cause of music would be to set about raising funds and making plans for the erection of a concert hall in London to take the place of the Queen's Hall, which the Nazis destroyed.

The need for such a concert hall grows continually more acute. There is always the Albert Hall, it is true, but its huge size—it seats 6,000—and its bad acoustics make it suitable only for the big bow-wow stuff of massed choirs and bands. Otherwise there are only a few small halls, none of them seating over 600 and most of them a good deal less, and these are always booked up for many months ahead.

What is really wanted is a hall of about 3,000 or 4,000 capacity, built on scientific lines with regard to acoustics, such as several of the provincial cities possess.

There are plenty of vacant sites, including that of the old Queen's Hall. But the ground rent there is said to have gone up so enormously as to make its reconstruction impractical. The chief difficulty, however, is not so much financial, as to get permission to build anything but prefrabricated huts. The concert hall will probably have to wait for a long time yet.

Now We Eat Whale

Ever since I read Herman Melville's "Moby Dick" I have had a great respect for whales, white and otherwise, but not as an article of diet. I may have to change my mind on this last point. No man knows what he may have to eat before he dies, and it is more than possible that one of these days I may have to tackle a rubbery slab of leviathan, but it won't be with my consent. I am not one of those heroic fellows who are prepared to try anything once.

At a recent luncheon of the Institute of Refrigeration, whale was one of the principal items of the menu—in the form of a Vienna steak with sauce. "Whaleburger Steak" they laughingly dubbed it, and were full of praise of its flavor and nourishing quality. We are not amused. We are in fact distinctly frightened. Two new whaling ships have just been fitted up with a special freezing-plant. That is how these things start. But I'm not having any—not if I have to turn vegetarian. There are some things ...

J. McARDLE
President

D. F. BENSON
Vice-President

Incorporation of a new company, Public & Industrial Relations Limited, was announced today. The new oranization has offices in Montreal and Toronto and is headed by Kenneth McArdle of Montreal as President.

o o o

Public & Industrial Relations Limited is taking over the business of Public Relations Service, which in three years of operation as a division of Vickers & Benson, Ltd., grew to be one of the largest organizations of its kind in Canada. In addition to Mr. McArdle, officers of the new company are D. F. Benson of Toronto, Vice-President, and R. H. Vickers, B. J. McGuire and Harold E. Walker, K.C., of Montreal as Directors.

The Toronto office of Public & Industrial Relations Limited, operating as a self-contained unit, is under the direction of J. Bryan Vaughan. Harold E. Freeman is Manager of the News Bureau serving both offices.

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WORLD OF WOMEN

Consistency and a Blueprint For the Future Make a Saving Plan

By LILLIAN D. MILLAR

HOW to provide for future wants and eventualities is a problem which sooner or later must be faced almost by everyone. To a large degree the measure of our security and happiness in the future depends upon how we save today. Yet few save wisely. Some save too little, others too much, and many do not put their savings to the best use.

At one extreme is the improvident person, who refuses to save anything. "What's the use of saving?" he asks. "We live only once and I am going to get as much as I can now."

There is the individual who does not save anything because he cannot save a lot. Of course it is easy for people with large incomes to save, this one maintains, but it is not worth while for him to put aside the small amount which he could squeeze out of his salary.

Then there are those who alternately spend freely and save feverishly. As a rule the Wilkins' money would disappear shortly after it was received and they would have to skimp for the last day or two before the next pay cheque arrived. This free and easy spending would continue until some big expenditure became unavoidable. For example, one day they would suddenly realize that the semi-annual payment on their home was due next month. "We must save," they would declare. All spending would be severely curtailed. Food would be bought at a store where they could charge it. Life would grow drab and thoroughly uncomfortable. Finally, when they had saved enough to cover the payment and the cheque would be mailed, they would give a combined sigh of relief and once more the Wilkins family would be back to their old way of haphazard spending.

Clear-Cut Picture

Then there is the large group of people who, although they are firm believers in saving, do not accomplish a great deal. Some save only spasmodically. Periodically they want something outside their budget and they suspend saving until they can get this coveted possession. Others save consistently and as much as they can afford but they do not use their savings wisely. Above all else John and Jane Smith wanted a home of their own. So they bought a house and applied all their savings to clear off the mortgage. When several years later John died, Jane was left penniless as the house had to be sold to pay the cost of John's illness and funeral expenses. Had the Smiths considered all their needs, they would not have turned all their savings into one channel but would have used a portion to provide against further contingencies.

In the next group are the people who have a clear-cut picture of both their needs and their desires and who set themselves to discover the best way to get as many as their resources will permit.

In another class come the too fearful and too cautious. Some in this group spend every dollar reluctantly for fear they may need it in the future. Others never find any pleasure in either their money or their possessions because they carry frugality to extremes. One autumn the White's bought a barrel of apples. Mr. White looked them over and found a few that were spotted. "Be sure always to use the spotted ones," he cautioned. So each time they picked only those with spots. When the barrel was empty they had never had one good apple.

Finally there is the Scrooge, the person who saves for the sake of saving and who makes the acquiring of money or possessions his ultimate aim.

How Much Is Needed?

The basis of successful saving is a definite plan. The first step in preparing this plan is to get an accurate picture of your saving requirements. Broadly speaking, you have to save for everything you need or want which you cannot buy out of one salary cheque. First, you need to know how much you must save for the many tangible things you will need or want in the immediate future. Saving enters into every item in the family budget, clothing, shelter, recreation, etc. How much must you set aside each pay day to cover the semi-annual payment on your home, the winter's fuel, a new winter coat and all other larger clothing expenditures? How much will you need for your next permanent, for Christmas and birthday gifts, for new furnishings and equipment for the home? How much must you save to buy that new car you want and a vacation next summer?

When you know the amount needed to cover all such items, you will be able to tell how much you can save for the intangible needs of the more distant future, those eventualities over which you have no control. The amount set aside for these future contingencies is what is usually termed "savings".

Now that you have a complete list of your savings needs before you, you can check relative values to see that each item is worth what you are paying for it. You will be able to make certain also that you are not saving for the future by doing without things you should have now, or that you are not spending too much now at the expense of your security later on. There is no rule as to the amount you should save. Savings must be fitted in with other demands on the family income. However some budget experts say that the goal of most families should be to save about 10 per cent of its income.

When you have decided just how much can be set aside for savings, the next step is to consider the contingencies for which this money is needed. Today the large bulk of the gainfully occupied are employees whose resources all stem from their salary cheques. If the earner of the family should die his dependents will have nothing unless he plans ahead to provide for them. If he becomes ill, his salary will usually cease after two or three weeks. If business depression comes his earnings may be seriously curtailed or he may lose his job and be unable to find another.

When he becomes old he will not be able to work and his income will stop. Death, sickness, hard times and old age are the eventualities for which the average family needs to provide.

Let us consider each one separately.

How to provide for dependents in event of his death has always been a major problem for the head of the family. The man who dies prematurely usually has not had time to accumulate wealth and has little to leave his family. To meet this need life insurance was designed. With the payment of the first premium an estate is immediately set up and some measure of security for the family is assured.

It should be kept in mind that income is the primary need, a regular amount to support the wife and children if anything should happen to the husband. Therefore, when the insurance is taken for this purpose, usually it is wise to specify that the proceeds of the policy will not be paid in a lump sum but will be distributed in instalments over a period of years.

Illness is another contingency for which everyone needs to make provision. When a gainfully employed person becomes ill his income stops after a certain period, usually two or three weeks. In addition he is faced with all the expenses which come with illness, medical and surgical fees, hospital or nursing charges, cost of medicines etc. You may have

Curving capelet collar of this royal blue wool coat has a border of black Persian, with sleeves capped and banded in the same fur. The skirt flares to a sweeping hemline and there's an ascot of self-material to tuck in at the throat. By Mangone.

JOAN RIGBY

DRESSES—TWEEDS—SWEATERS

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sufficient resources to take care of these contingencies, but the average person is finding it more and more difficult to cover such losses out of his personal savings. Therefore, to meet a growing demand, many hospital and medical schemes are being made available and insurance contracts are being designed to meet almost any need.

Most hospitalization plans provide public ward or semi-private room service for a specified number of days and also other hospital services. Some plans may be endorsed to cover surgical fees. Medical service schemes usually cover medical, surgical and hospital fees, but not cost of medicines. The average sickness insurance contract provides for payment of a monthly sum during disability and also an amount to cover certain expenses. Types of policies are numerous and you can buy almost any protection you want.

If your salary continues for a time after you become sick, say three weeks, at a lower premium you may arrange to have the disability benefit commence when your salary stops instead of from beginning of illness. Or if you have sufficient means to cover costs of any ordinary sickness, you may get a policy which will give you a monthly income for your lifetime if you become totally and permanently disabled. Before you decide on any plan consider what type of protection you need and then find the contract which most nearly fits your circumstances.

Savings and Investments

Business depression may be another threat to essential income. While the Unemployment Insurance Act, which came into operation in 1941, brings a measure of security to a large number of employees, it applies to only about one-half of the total gainfully occupied. The Act does not cover those who are engaged in certain industries and occupations, such as agriculture, forestry, lumbering, transportation by air and water and a number of others. It does not apply to any employee who receives more than $2,400 a year or to those who work on their own behalf, such as professional persons. The large group to whom the Act does not apply must provide for reduction in earnings in times of business depression, or for loss of income due to unemployment, by personal savings and wise investment.

Finally there is the problem of saving for old age. Here too, continuance of an income is the important factor. You may have accumulated sufficient resources to keep you during your lifetime but the average person is finding it increasingly difficult to save enough during his earning period to support him after he must retire. It has been estimated that only about 15 per cent of men are completely self-supporting at age 65.

To help people to save consistently throughout their earning period and to assure a definite income after retirement, various types of annuity and pension schemes have been inaugurated and life insurance contracts have been redesigned. Many industrial and financial concerns have pension schemes for their employees. The Dominion Government offers attractive annuity contracts. Insurance companies have a number of types of annuities and pensions, many of which also provide life insurance protection. Moreover, life insurance contracts now being issued may provide the usual life insurance protection up to a certain age when policy proceeds will be used to provide a life annuity, or a joint annuity for husband and wife.

Make a survey of all the things for which you should save, both the tangible ones you will want soon and the intangible needs of the future. Decide how much you can safely save, then find the best saving plan for you. With this goal before you start to save, and stick to it.

CONCERNING FOOD

Omar a Realist with Few Fancy Ideas About the Coming Year

By JANET MARCH

AFTER living through another Christmas season Omar Khayyam seems to have the right idea about—

"A Flask of Wine, a Book of Verse
—and thou
Beside me singing in the wilderness."

At times wildernesses may seem to lack coziness and other conveniences but at least they are not filled with falling Christmas trees, unwritten thank-you notes, and too much cold turkey. Omar was a realist and had no fancy ideas about New Year's resolutions which are supposed to make angels of all of us,

"Now the New Year reviving old Desires,
The thoughtful soul to solitude retires"

and if you aren't thoughtful, which few housewives have time to be, you can just brush up on your old desires.

These probably include a jewel in the kitchen, which is certainly an old desire and very unlikely to come true. Some people sit back hoping that miraculously good maids will reappear in quantity, but the more cynical of us are deeply interested in labor saving equipment, such as those washers which do the dishes in their odd moments and that marvellous machine which chews up garbage, and other wonders.

With a streamlined kitchen and either an eating alcove, or a dining room only a few steps from the stove, you could put more time into good cooking and less in walking round and wrapping up garbage. Probably the best desire we can wish for is more production of labor saving devices, and of course if this is the case the potential maids will be in the factories making the machines.

In the meantime, even if your sink is a back breaking one, and the kitchen devised to make you walk the greatest possible number of miles in a day, we must still eat so here are a few fairly easy dishes.

Gypsy Chicken

1 chicken
½ can of tomatoes
1 Spanish onion
½ cup of sherry
Half a green pepper
Salt and pepper

Have the butcher draw and cut up the chicken, or just buy enough of the cut up sort which you can get in so many shops. If you are doing this legs and breasts are the best buys. Fry the pieces of chicken and when they are brown put them in a casserole dish. Slice the onion and the pepper and cook them gently in a little fat and then add them to the chicken. Pour in the half can of tomatoes, which you can increase to a full can if you would like to make the dish go a little farther; only if you do this thicken the tomato juice with a few bread crumbs unless you like it very runny. Add pepper and salt and, last of all, the sherry. Cover closely and cook in a slow oven—325°—for about an hour.

If you still have a little turkey left over you can make a good soufflé with not too much trouble.

Turkey Soufflé

2 cups of diced turkey meat
2 tablespoons of butter
2 tablespoons of flour
2 cups of milk
3 eggs
Salt and pepper
1 tablespoon of chopped parsley

Melt the butter and stir in the flour, then add salt and pepper and the milk, and stir all the time until the sauce thickens. Stir in the turkey and the egg yolks well beaten and the parsley. Beat the whites of the eggs till they are very stiff and cut them in to the turkey mixture. Poach in an oven at about 325°-350° till done, which should be in about forty minutes.

If you would like to make a thick soup which is really a meal in itself how about trying

Italian Minestrone

½ cup of cooked ham chopped
3 medium onions
2 cups of canned tomatoes
½ cup of rice, if you have any saved, if not substitute macaroni or spaghetti, but it should be rice
2 medium carrots finely sliced
1 cup of finely shredded cabbage
3 stalks of celery cut thin
2 tablespoons of chopped parsley
2 tablespoons of chopped green pepper
½ cup of green peas, canned or fresh
1 bay leaf
A pinch of sage
A pinch of thyme
½ cup of sausage meat
2 quarts of water
1 teaspoon of Bovril or a bouillon cube
1 cup of grated cheese
3 tablespoons of fat
Salt and pepper

Cook the ham, the onions sliced, and the sausage meat gently in the fat for ten to fifteen minutes, Add the rice, tomatoes, carrots, cabbage, celery, green pepper, parsley, peas, herbs, salt, pepper, water and Bovril and simmer for an hour. Serve with grated cheese.

OH, LOVE!

WE HAVE crooners who croon
And torch singers who moon
Of the ecstasy that
Is love.

We have tenors who purl
Of a dear little girl,
Of her eyes and her lips
And love.

And sopranos who scream
Of the night and a dream,
And always the subject
Is love.

Is there naught in this life
Worth the toot of a fife,
Or a croon or a moan,
But love?

A new song of the sea
In a rollicking key,
Or a song of the sun?
No love.

Are we all so suppressed
That we must be obsessed
With insatiable zest
For Love?

J.A.W.

While Paris is known best as a fashion Mecca for grown-up ladies, little girls are not altogether forgotten by the designers. This white ceremonial dress is of organdie with an ankle-length, very wide skirt, circled by garlands of rose and green applique flower motifs. By Lenci.

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MADE IN CANADA

THE OTHER PAGE

Kenya Christmas Is Noisy

By E. M. BROWN

"HOLY NIGHT! Silent night!" I sang it softly and a little wistfully while my horse pricked up her silky ears to listen. So silent here at the summit of this African hill ten thousand feet above sea level, high against the sky where the snow-white clouds seemed to rest upon her shoulders.

It was Christmas Eve, and I had ridden Corky to the top of the hill so that I could be alone and think of my home in Canada.

The air here was sharp and clear, heady as a glass of champagne, and cold despite the strong sunlight that drenched the landscape in a shower of radiant summer gold. Blue forget-me-nots grew in profusion at our feet, and wild delphiniums lifted their tall blue spires above the long grass.

"See amid the winter snow, born for us on earth below." Oh! surely Christmas belonged to the white still forests and the frail white flakes of snow that drifted silently against the window pane of my Canadian home.

Infinitely vast stretches of lonely country lay before me. Broad savannahs of shadow from low clouds floated stealthily over the fields. No human habitation anywhere interrupted the view. The distant hills leaned up against the sky, their sheaves of wheat shining in pale gold pyramids under the penetrating light of a tropical sun.

Away in the distance a tall black Lumbwa shepherd was keeping watch over his flock. His sheep shone star-like as they moved before him quietly cropping the grass. And then a thought came like a revelation. Bethlehem! Ah! yes, not amid the winter snow, but on a night like this the Virgin Mary laid her Divine child to sleep on His bed of straw. For "there were shepherds abiding in the fields." Now I fancied I could hear the angels singing just over that African hill.

They were still singing in my heart as I rode up the long lane through the farm garden where tall wine and yellow foxgloves, golden and red roses, carnations and giant white lilies bloomed in a glowing tapestry of color.

BEFORE the quick tropical darkness fell we went out into the forest for Christmas decorations. Mistletoe grew in abundance, and green leaves took the place of the traditional holly. Here at this altitude there were great cedar forests and even fir trees. Our Danish farm hand had cut a small fir tree and for a surprise had decorated it with precious ornaments which his mother had sent all the way from Denmark. Christmas puddings, turkeys and mince pies flourish in equatorial lands on the twenty-fifth of December, but it is a rare sight to see a decorated tree.

Ten o'clock. Outside in the forest a hyena laughed at a star and the hyrax whimpered in the cold wet woods. Moon-drenched roses nodded and fumbled against the window pane. Away in the south on a dark hill of sky stood the Southern Cross, a jewelled Calvary among the fiery stars of a tropical night. I pulled the blankets closely around me and remembered the songs of home. "It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old when angels —." Somewhere in the middle of the words I fell asleep.

ABOUT midnight I was awakened by an ear-splitting burst of noise, and mysterious lights dancing giddily on my bedroom ceiling. I sat bolt upright, terrified by the violence of my awakening, and unable to arrange the sense impressions of light and sound into an intelligible unified experience. Voices, native voices, were singing under my window with complete abandon and an intensity of discordant sound sufficient to lay the walls of Jericho flat. Of course! It was Christmas! The black folk were carolling under my window.

"Peace on earth, good will to men." I recognized that part of our hymn in the native tongue. The tune followed ours too for a few fleeting bars, but with Kikuyus any music degenerates into an outrage of half notes, quarter notes and other fractional crimes in rasping sound.

I peeped carefully out of the window, taking precaution that I should not appear in my white nightgown like one of the herald angels, caught in an aura of light. A group of "boys" from the nearby mission school stood just below me, their black heads wagging and waving with the zeal of song. Some craned eagerly forward to see the words in the few books carried by one or two enthusiastic Christians. Others stared expectantly at the sightless windows of the new white Memsahib. Fantastic, shifting patterns of light danced upwards on perspiring faces and luminous black eyes from the lanterns they carried. On and on went the carol into innumerable verses in Swahili. I crept to the door of my friend's bedroom, "What am I supposed to do about this?" I asked. "Shall I give them some money?"

"God forbid!" said a weary voice. "If you do that we'd have to listen to it all night. Keep quiet and maybe they'll go away."

I took the advice. At last the voices ceased. The choristers moved off and silence flowed in once again. Away on the next farm we could hear them "repeat the sounding joy" to fresh victims. The hyrax screeched their disapproval and the stars, each as bright as the star of Bethlehem, shone down into the garden.

CHRISTMAS day broke open like a golden rose. The black folk were early in their celebrations. A low mysterious chanting, punctuated by the staccato scream of a whistle, marked the warm-up for the big "ngoma" (dance). About a dozen women, carrying short sticks, came dancing and pirouetting through the garden, looking for all the world like the witches in one of my first school readers.

Soon after this natives began to gather from all directions. In all stages of dress and undress they streamed up the forest paths, jigging and jitterbugging in the grand African manner, as a prelude to the final performance. Woolly black heads wreathed in yellow and red roses, and circled with vines, bobbed above the hedge like inspired Bacchanals.

The thin wail of a native-made violin announced the arrival of the chief musician and moving spirit of the performance. For this festive occasion his face was tattooed with small bright dots of paint, and his head was crowned with a veritable pagoda of brown paper and turkey feathers. He approached slowly and impressively, drawing a high plaintive melody from his crude instrument, his eyes fixed on the sky, a sweet intoxicated smile playing on his lips. On his approach the scattered tributaries of the dance gathered around him into one great surging tide of syncopated rhythm. each native retaining a certain individuality of style, but all swaying and stamping and swinging to the improvised tunes of the maestro.

One boy with half of his face painted white chose to dance sideways in crab fashion, twisting his body into the most deformed shapes.

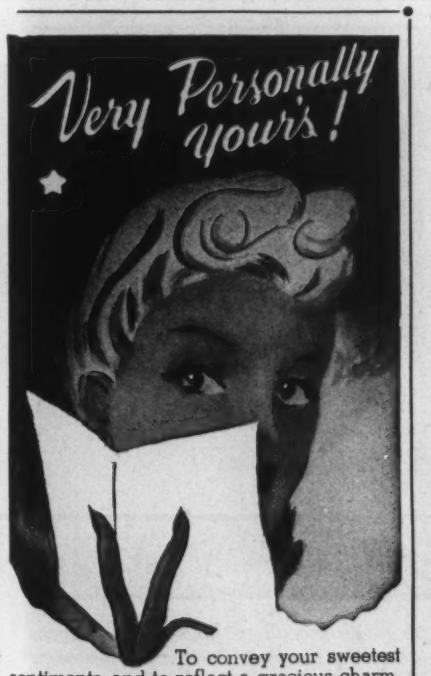
Round and round our twenty foot wireless pole they swing in an ever widening circle, the number of the dancers increasing every moment as new recruits appear on the edge of the lawn.

Some are almost nude, their rippling muscles glistening with perspiration. Many of the women have adopted some travesty of European dress, spectacular in vivid stripes of red and green, their heads bound with rainbow-hued bandanas. Others, scornful of such highlights of fashion are clothed in age-old reeking brown hides, their bald heads smooth and gleaming like polished wood. Naked except for a blanket knotted at the shoulder, or a dirty piece of American maracani (cotton) are the Lumbwa "boys," beautiful in feature, their long hair twisted into tight curls.

Almost all wear ornaments that would outrival the latest novelties in costume jewellery. Pierced and extended ears are weighted down with rings of purple beads, or fitted with round wooden or metal ornaments. Legs and arms are bound with innumerable coils of bright wire. Some wear tin cans filled with stones attached to their ankles, thus adding to their regalia, and at the same time providing the company with a new orchestral instrument.

Dust fills the air. The whistle shrills insanely above the weird strains of the violin. Dancers inebriated by the mesmeric rhythmic orgy toss back their heads wildly, and scream intermittently. Intelligence dies out of their faces leaving a vacuous hypnotized stare. The life is in the feet that swing and stamp, and in the sinuous curves of swaying torsos.

In order to break up the performance we scattered handfuls of bright new five cent Kenya coins among the dancers. Even the passion for motion and rhythm was not proof against the lust for Mammon. They broke ranks and rushed after the coins in a mad scrimmage, yelling and whooping with delight. There were cries of "Santa saana, Bwana!" (Thank you very much Master!) All were in high humor and there was no quarrelling, the lucky ones sharing up willingly with the others.



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Gold Price Revision Interests Britons

By JOHN L. MARSTON
Saturday Night's Financial Correspondent in London

The threat of a serious gold shortage may cause a change in its price. In the last 7 years money in circulation has increased by more than 160 per cent. That such an expansion should occur on existing resources is evidence of the change in conditions from the gold-standard days and is further proof that currencies can operate without effective backing.

To grant gold a place which it has outgrown and adjust our gold standard accordingly should not be attempted. Mr. Marston asserts that to re-instate it would be an arbitrary act and in the matter of monetary technique, retrogressive.

London.

THE threat of a serious gold shortage has lately aroused interest in the possibility of a revision of the price of the yellow metal. At the same time as — on paper at least — the need for gold is larger than ever before, the most important producers are mining less. There has been talk of a complete shut-down of many South African mines, because current prices do not show a sufficient margin over rising costs of production. The immense potential output of the Soviet Union will evidently not materialize for some years yet, because labor is more urgently needed for reconstruction.

It has been calculated that the total currency and credit — that is, money effectively in circulation — of North America, Britain, France, and Sweden, increased by more than 160 per cent between mid-1939 and mid-1946. That such an expansion could occur on existing gold resources is evidence of the change from gold-standard days. It is further proof, if such were needed, that currencies can operate without effective gold backing. But in the United States, at any rate, there is still some relationship between the amount of gold and the volume of credit, and it is generally assumed that this relationship will be strengthened by the advent of more Republicans to Washington.

In the field of international settlement, gold has not, by any means, lost its special status. It is true that many trade agreements have been concluded since the outbreak of war on a bilateral basis, and that, in so far as this form of trading is accepted internationally, the need for gold is reduced. But Bretton Woods points another way. Fundamentally, Bretton Woods is a very orthodox plan, aimed at balancing trade by automatic adjustment of currencies, with settlement of marginal differences ultimately gold. The Bretton Woods countries are on a modified gold standard — and it is one of the tests of the wise operation of the plan whether it is flexible enough to avoid the catastrophic results of the gold standard as it worked between the wars.

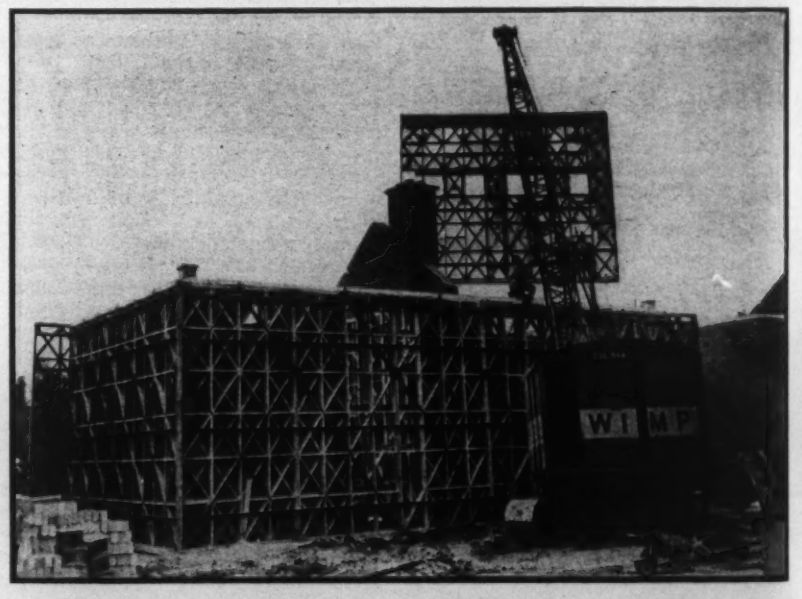
Hoarding

Another factor, which is even more important now than formerly, is hoarding. Hoarding of precious metals has reached the fantastic proportions in the East, and, although this is a violently fluctuating demand, it seems possible that in the present un-

(*Continued on Next Page*)

Britain Tries "Pouring" Houses to Help Present Shortage

Shortage of housing can upset a people's way of life as nothing else can. In many countries—because practically no new housing was built anywhere during the war—acute housing crises exist. Britain, whose homes suffered so grievously from enemy bombing, is even worse off than we are in Canada, and Labor's plans for construction of ten new types of houses have aroused particular interest. Most of these types are of concrete, using pre-cast methods for floors, walls, and roofs, while another uses resin-bonded plywood glued to timber studding. Above picture shows former type under construction at Greenwich. At . . .



. . . Uxbridge, near London, concrete made of cement and coarse aggregate only, is poured into formwork of easily-handled shuttering; average time for pair of new worker-type houses (below) is 3½ days, when roof is at once added. "Pouring" includes chimney breast and stacks.

THE BUSINESS ANGLE

Behind the Iron Curtain

By P. M. RICHARDS

WHEN anyone from England or Germany or Brazil tells us of conditions in one of those countries, he merely supplements knowledge we have already gained from the press. How much more important to us is an eye-witness account of conditions in Soviet Russia, the country which is exerting such an enormous influence on our own social as well as political outlook and whose newspapers tell only what their government wants them to tell. Now one of these too rare accounts comes from George Moorad, formerly head of the Moscow office of the Columbia Broadcasting Company, in an address at the recent New York convention of the National Association of Manufacturers. Mr. Moorad likes the Russian people very much, and warmly praises their heroism and sacrifice in war; but he doesn't like the Soviet Government.

He doesn't like the constant spying and the secret police and the all-pervading Government controls and the "disappearances" of persons reported to have criticized the Government, nor the enormous disparity between the living standards of the all-privileged Communist Party members and the completely unprivileged masses of workers. "Since living in Russia," said Moorad, "it is incredible to me that the opposition to communist or totalitarian standards comes in this country chiefly from the wealthy and the so-called reactionary classes. Actually these classes—as classes—have almost nothing to fear from state socialism. But the working man, the union member, the clerk, the scientist, the professor and the artist have everything to lose: freedom."

"Big Shots" Do Well in Russia

State socialism has shown in Russia, as it did in state-socialist Germany, that the big executives, the monopolies, the politicians and even capitalists can come to terms with almost any regime, Moorad said. While the big executives and bureaucrats and monopolists live luxuriously, the ordinary working man, living in poverty, is told where he will work, under what conditions and how many hours. He has to belong to a union, to which he must pay dues and which takes its orders from the communist or group of communists at the top. It was and is a criminal offence for a man to change his place of work. If the Russian citizen doesn't work as directed, his food card is taken from him and in the normal course of events he will die.

Salary is a secondary consideration in Russia. What really matters to the individual Russian is the category in which he is placed for food and clothing rations. The classifications range in amount and quality from the Communist Party member's top allowance, an ample amount, down to the unskilled worker or dependent aged, who during wartime, says Moorad, "received about half enough to keep alive." Soldiers were seen begging in wartime because Soviet military law recognizes only wounds caused by "mechanical forces", such as a bullet wound or bayonet stab. The soldier who contracted a bad heart, kidney disease or some psychiatric ailment was simply turned out on his own; the Soviet military system had no further use for him. The "rule of human utility" is the constant governing factor in Soviet Russia's relations with its people.

Russian workers regularly work a six-day, 60-hour week. Anything over 60 hours is overtime. Here are some monthly salaries: draftsman $50 to $60; engineer $70 to $140; university students $30 to $40 depending on their grades; janitor $25 to $30; chemical technician $85 to $160; shop directors $100 to $115; office workers up to $80; Red Army general $450; ballet dancer $160 to $600 depending upon her political benefactors. An outstanding man on piecework or a peasant who exceeds his normal production can make up to $400 a month, so the scale is not necessarily measured by graft or favoritism. It can be raised by gruelling speed-up labor.

What These Wages Will Buy

What do these wages buy? The food card is of first importance because with it the worker can buy his black bread and fats in Government stores at low prices. But "luxuries" such as shoes, a coat, socks, a toothbrush, a water glass or a frying pan must be purchased with big money in the so-called commercial stores, which are also Government-owned. Here are some prices noted by Mr. Moorad at the end of 1944: women's cotton stockings $6; men's cotton shirts $80 to $100; woollen gloves $23; toothbrush $1.20; small electric heater $50; children's soap cake $14; face powder $8; lady's skirt $34; brassiere $13; wristwatch $400 to $700; high-heeled shoes imported from Rumania $300.

The difference between wages and the prices of commodities must be and is, Moorad said, made up from multifarious forms of graft and petty thievery such as inevitably follows a system of scarcity and government control. "What do the Russians think of this octopus which has fastened upon their lives?" Moorad said: "My guess is that the Russians dislike their gruelling, shabby lives and would change things if they could. I think people are never quite as stupid as their political leaders assume. It doesn't take a very smart man to know when he is hungry. . ."

Mr. Moorad reported on the group of Britishers and Americans who went to the Soviet Union in the first flush of idealism over Communist reform and became Soviet citizens. Some of them, he said, were bailed out by wealthy relatives in Britain or the U.S., but there still remained in Moscow about 200 of them, chained to their passports, unable ever to leave that country. "They are a sad community. In the days before the purges they were treated like citizens. But now they are outcasts because they are foreigners; native Russians fear to be seen with them. Most of them live by translating documents into English, teaching, or working for newspapers and radio where a knowledge of English is needed."

In general, Mr. Moorad found Russia "unspeakably depressing."

(*Continued from Page* 18)

settlement the trend is still towards more hoarding. This demand is not confined to the "superstitious" countries of the East but is effective on a substantial scale on the Continent of Europe — even in such apparently stable countries as Switzerland.

It is extremely difficult to strike a balance, and to say how much the demand for gold has increased since pre-war years; but it is beyond question that the overall demand has increased quite considerably. The world's monetary stock of gold, on the other hand, has increased in the war period by not quite six per cent. In terms of effective currency circulation, and of the needs of international settlement in conditions so abnormal that nothing like a balance of trade is possible, such an expansion of available supplies is practically negligible. As matters stand, there is no prospect of a growth of output anything like commensurate with the growth of demand, and if gold is to perform a serious monetary function there seems to be no escaping the arguments for a higher price. This would have to be such an increase as the Bretton Woods plan envisages: a *general* increase in the price of gold, not merely an increase in terms, say, of the South African pound, whose effects would soon be nullified by rising prices and costs in the gold-mining territories.

Policy Out of Focus

It may be, however, that some of the protagonists of the higher price policy have got it a little out of focus. The perspective has changed since the old gold-standard days, and, necessary as gold may be in the grand postwar reorganization, the long-term future of the metal as a monetary basis is by no means certain. The classic theory that the value of money, as of goods, depends ultimately on its cost of production has no place in the new economics, which seeks to adapt the means more consciously to the end and requires that currency, which is simply a convenience in the exchange of goods and services, shall merely be adequate to its purpose and not control in any way the functions which it is supposed to aid.

To put gold back in control of the world's principal monetary systems would be extremely difficult, and it is not a task which should be attempted. To help the muddled world to straighten itself out in the coming crucial years it is probably advisable to stimulate gold production by a higher price, but such a step should not be regarded as the beginning of a new gold era. Gold has served its purpose well as a basis of money; but it is not, as it was customary until quite recently to assume, the "natural" monetary standard. To attempt to reinstate it now would be a quite arbitrary act, and, in the matter of monetary technique, retrogressive.

Penmans Limited

DIVIDEND NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Dividends have been declared for the quarter ending the 31st day of January, 1947.

On the Preferred Stock, one and one-half per cent, (1½ %), payable on the 1st day of February to Shareholders of record of the 2nd day of January, 1947.

On the Common Stock seventy-five cents (75c) per share, payable on the 15th day of February to Shareholders of record of the 15th day of January, 1947.

By Order of the Board.

Montreal, December 16, 1946. C. B. ROBINSON, Secretary-Treasurer.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

DIVIDEND NO. 240

NOTICE is hereby given that a DIVIDEND OF TWENTY CENTS per share on the paid-up Capital Stock of this Bank has been declared for the quarter ending 31st January 1947 and that the same will be payable at the Bank and its Branches on and after SATURDAY, the FIRST day of FEBRUARY 1947, to Shareholders of record at the close of business on 31st December 1946. The Transfer Books will not be closed.

By Order of the Board,
S. M. WEDD,
General Manager.

Toronto, 13th December 1946.

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NEWS OF THE MINES

Busy Season in 1947 Is Promised for Yellowknife Area, N.W.T.

By JOHN M. GRANT

A BROADENING of exploration and development activity in the Yellowknife district, Northwest Territories, was evident this year, and while outstanding progress is reported by engineers now visiting in Toronto, all state that everything shapes up for an even busier season in 1947 and following years, as more companies commence underground work. The unprecedented wave of promotional effort is being succeeded by serious mining and the widespread activity has resulted in numerous developments of promise. The staking of claims has spread more than 125 miles from the Yellowknife settlement, which at the height of the season had a population of between 5,000 and 6,000, and is now around 4,500 in town and district. The summer's expansion of exploration brought numerous reports of new finds and more than 70 companies are said to have had exploration programs in various stages of development, with nearly 50 diamond drills employed during the season. Over 21,000 claims were reported in good standing last spring.

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The two present gold producers in the Yellowknife currently have new deep development programs in hand. Giant Yellowknife, the success of which is largely credited with touching off the frenzied activity, expects to be in production late next year. Peg Tantalum Mines has commenced milling, and at least half a dozen gold prospects have either started or are preparing to go ahead with shaft sinking. Labor is reported more plentiful now and Yellowknife at the end of the season had a fairly good stock of supplies. The camp is said to be still handicapped by insufficient large planes (four ton capacity) and more air landing strips are a vital need. Praise, however, is accorded the Dominion government for the undertakings being carried out to aid the district's development, such as the hydro-electric power development at Snare River, the airport, the all-weather highway to Great Slave Lake, improvement in navigation on the Athabasca River and orderly development of the new Yellowknife townsite.

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Gold production in the Northwest Territories in the first six months of 1946 aggregated 7,475 fine ounces. while output in 1945 was confined to the last four months of the year and totalled 8,655 ounces. Negus Mines was the only producing company. With the gradual improvement in the labor supply milling was resumed in August at the Con mine of the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company on a 225 ton daily schedule. The Con was the first producing mine in the Territories and its output during the period 1938 to 1943 was worth approximately $6,500,000. Development is being pushed to new depths in the mine below the 2,000-foot horizon. Negus Mines plans to deepen its main shaft from 1,250 to 1,850 feet, encouraging results are reported at Negus from deep diamond drilling. Initial production at Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines is expected in the latter part of 1947 and scale of first output will be determined by the amount of power available. Diesel and local hydro power will be utilized until the Dominion government hydro plant is completed the following year. The 100-ton mill at Peg Tantalum Mines, at Ross Lake, is now in operation and all concentrates will be flown to Tantalum Mining and Refining Corporation of America refinery at Edmonton.

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Six companies, Athona Mines, (1937) Ltd., Beaulieu Yellowknife Mines, Crestaurum Mines, Discovery Yellowknife Mines, Diversified Mining Interests (Canada) Ltd., and Salmita Northwest Mines are all preparing for underground development. Shaft sinking is expected to start at Athona in April, 1947. Equipment and supplies are contracted for and should be delivered to the property in March. Beaulieu is well ahead of schedule on its building program and with the erection of the headframe. Sinking will commence after arrival of necessary hoist equipment. A mill of 35-tons daily capacity has been purchased. Sinking to 450 feet is underway at Crestaurum. Discovery plans to establish three levels at intervals of 125 feet and a temporary plant is being used to open the first level this winter. Deeper levels will be developed early next summer with permanent plant. The Diversified shaft sinking plant has been assembled at Yellowknife and will be transported by tractor. First lateral work here will be at a depth of 300 feet. Salmita Northwest is to sink a two-compartment shaft to 225 feet and open two levels. An airport is to be constructed by Salmita at Salmita Lake to accommodate large multi-engine air freighters on wheels.

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A new and important mining industry appears in the making in the Northwest Territories, with the commencement this month of milling operations at Peg Tantalum Mines, near Ross Lake, northeast of Yellowknife. Five test runs were made, one of 100 tons or more. Difficulty was encountered in making a clean concentrate and some small additional equipment has been ordered for delivery within the next few weeks. All concentrates have been contracted to the Tantalum Refining & Mining Corporation of America, which is building a refinery at Edmonton. It is planned to take the first year's production of tantalite ore from the No. 3 deposit which is from 20 to 30 feet wide and at least 300 feet in length. The No. 1 deposit has been proven to dip about 30 degrees and to carry tantalum to a depth of 60 feet. Tests have indicated the tantalite ore from this deposit to be exceptionally good grade. Some work has been done on three other deposits and altogether there are 40 or 50 other dykes carrying tantalite on the company's holdings. Test samples of 3,000 to 5,000 tons will be run from four or five of the deposits to secure information preparatory to underground mining. It is interesting to note that in the last two or three years a number of deposits carrying tantalite have been discovered in the large area extending north and west from Ross Lake through the Pensive Lake area. The outlook is that all these deposits will supply a considerable quantity of tantalite in the coming years.

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As development work at Kenville Gold Mines, in the Kootenay district of British Columbia, has not fulfilled expectations during the past six months, plans for production have been modified, according to G. H. Rainville, president. While original plans called for starting construction of a 200-ton mill this fall with a 500-ton crushing capacity, proposals now call for the erection of a 125-ton mill which will be used to treat known ore resources and provide bulk sampling facilities to determine grade of vein occurrences. It is expected it will not be possible to secure all equipment for the mill until early next spring. All underground work is being suspended and will not be resumed until a short time before the mill begins to operate. A total of $650,000 has been expended by Quebec mining Corporation and Noranda to date. A loan of $300,000 is being arranged, repayable out of first profits, to construct the mill and bring the property into production.

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A recent listing on the Toronto Stock Exchange was Berwick Gold Mines, with property holdings of 23 unpatented claims in Heenan township, Sudbury division. Present interest in the shares attaches to its ownership of 415,000 shares of Joburke Gold Mines, received for the transfer of Berwick's interest in the Keith township property. Berwick is capitalized at 3,000,000 shares, $1 par, of which 2,075,000 are currently outstanding. Surface exploration, geological mapping and diamond drilling were carried out during the summer. As at October 31st last, cash on deposit amounted to $95,040, accounts receivable $707, and $29,202 had been advanced to Joburke Gold Mines. Accounts payable totalled $247.

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Negotiations have been concluded with a New York financial group to provide sufficient funds to carry out an extensive diamond drilling program at Durham Red Lake Gold Mines, shareholders were informed at the annual meeting. Underwriting agreements have been signed that provide for a $35,000 firm commitment and further option on 1,000,000 shares. Wm. C. Durham, president, stated that extensive x-ray drilling had indicated three zones with ore-making possibilities. One of three mineralized sections in the No. 4 zone returned values aver-

(*Continued on Page* 24)

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HENRY J. WYATT, Director, Marine Midland Trust Co. of N.Y.

FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 1945

Assets $16,015,082.00
Liabilities to the Public $10,087,972.00
Capital $1,400,000.00
Surplus above Capital $4,527,110.00
Losses paid since organization $145,045,361.00

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TIMELY TOPICS

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May we include your name on our list?

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GOLD & DROSS

It is recommended that answers to inquiries in this department be read in conjunction with the Business and Market Forecast.

W. L. T., Brandon, Man.—SILVER ARROW MINES owns two groups of claims, one in South Lorrain and the other at Elk Lake, and recently took a working option on a group of claims in the Cobalt district from the Van Tassel Mining Syndicate. The old shaft and workings on this property have been unwatered and three veins exposed carrying values in cobalt, on which work is now being done. Preliminary results are reported as encouraging. Some diamond drilling was carried out last summer on both the South Lorrain and Elk Lake groups, but results are said to have been inconclusive. Drilling has been stopped and the company is carrying out surface prospecting. Silver Arrow was incorporated in April, the name being changed from Oxbow Silver Mines, which was formed earlier in the year. While the financial position has not been reported it was announced in September they were ample for the present exploration plans.

G.R.C., Weston, Ont. — Dividends were initiated on the Class "A" and "B" stocks of GENERAL PRODUCTS MFG. CORP., LTD., when the company declared a dividend of 50 cents a share on the issues, payable Jan. 15 to stock of record Dec. 27. The redemption in November of last year of the outstanding arrears certificates and further improvement in 1945 in the company's earnings paved the way for the declaration. For the year ended Dec. 31, 1945, net profit, which was the highest in the company's history, was equal to $1.30 a share on the combined A and B stocks and it compared with 68 cents a share in the previous year.

S. R. V., The Pas, Man.—I understand the increased activity in the Little Long Lac area has led to consideration of MARQUETTE LONG LAC GOLD MINES resuming exploration. Some diamond drilling was done last year but the company at the present has not sufficient finances on hand to carry out additional work. The directors are now said to be endeavoring to raise money for further drilling. The property adjoins Little Long Lac Gold Mines and it is hoped an arrangement can be made with the latter to permit the use of its workings to drill at depth into Marquette. The company has no debts and out of its authorized capitalization of 3,000,000 shares, 943,595 remain in the treasury. The Marquette property consists of 14 claims and was acquired from Lafayette Long Lac Gold Mines for $3,000 and 1,000,000 shares.

F. B. C., Kingston, Ont.—Bondholders of KEEFER REALTY CORP., which company operated a large office building in Montreal, will be paid off in full and two classes of shareholders will receive substantial amounts for their holdings as the result of acceptance of a $650,000 cash offer for the property from an estate. It is understood that when all claims have been disposed of the company will be liquidated.

G. C. S., Timmins, Ont.—The financing of JOBURKE GOLD MINES, the company formed last summer on the discovery which sparked the Groundhog River rush, is being provided by Rush Lake Gold Mines and Berwick Gold Mines, both companies having an equal participation. Early drilling has suggested possibilities of a large tonnage operation. Four

The Stock Appraiser

By W. GRANT THOMSON

SUCCESSFUL investment depends on knowing two things:—(1) What to buy (or sell) (2) When to buy (or sell). The Stock Appraiser—a study of Canadian stock habits—answers the first question.

All active and well distributed stocks (with a few minor exceptions) advance or decline with the Averages. The better grade investment stocks do not normally move as fast as the averages, while on the other hand the very speculative issues have a relative velocity more than twice or three times as great.

The STOCK APPRAISER divides stocks into three Groups according to their normal velocity in relation to the Averages.

The Factors affecting the longer term movements of a company's shares are ascertained from a study of their normal habits. Predominant Factors are shown as:

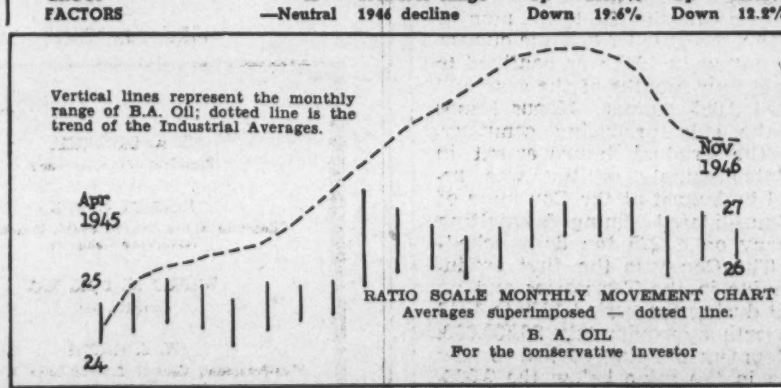
GROUP "A"—Investment Stocks — 1. FAVORABLE
GROUP "B"—Speculative Investments — 2. NEUTRAL or
GROUP "C"—Speculations — 3. UNATTRACTIVE

A stock rated Favorable or Neutral-Plus has considerably more attraction than those with a lower rating, but it is imperative that purchases be made, even of stocks with favorable ratings, with due regard to timing, because few stocks will go against the trend of the Averages.

The Investment Index is the average yield of all stocks expressed as a percentage of the yield of any stock, thus showing at a glance the relative investment value placed on it by the "bloodless verdict of the market-place."

British American Oil Company Limited

			Averages		B.A. Oil	
PRICE 29 Nov. 46	—$26.00					
YIELD	— 3.8%	Last 1 month	Down	.3%	Down	.4%
INVESTMENT INDEX	— 116	Last 12 months	Up	3.6%	Up	2.5%
GROUP	— "A"	1942-1946 range	Up	160.0%	Up	119.2%
FACTORS	—Neutral	1946 decline	Down	19.6%	Down	12.2%



SUMMARY:—"A picture is better than many thousand words" says an old Chinese proverb. The information obtained from these studies of stock habits and the deductions made therefrom are not the work of a "chartist". But one must admit that the portrayal of the movement of any stock shown in relation to the movement of the Averages over any similar period furnishes the reader with a much clearer picture than he could get in words and figures only.

Thus, when we show, in the figures above, that B. A. Oil has advanced 2.5% in the past 12 months whereas the Averages have advanced 3.6%, an impression of relative stability of both is indicated; whereas the chart will show clearly the wide upward swing of the Averages (and this means most stocks) which culminated last summer, but not shared in by B. A. Oil.

British American Oil is essentially a conservative type of equity. It is a stock in which insurance companies may invest. The return to the investor is not high but the dividend seems secure. But one can hardly expect more than very moderate price appreciation.

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DIVIDEND

CLASS "A" AND CLASS "B" SHARES

The Directors have declared a dividend on the Class "A" Shares of $2.00 per share.

And a dividend on the Class "B" Shares of $1.00 per share.

Both dividends payable January 29th, 1947, to shareholders of record January 11, 1947.

R. J. DINNING,
President.

Calgary, Canada,
December 17th, 1946.

drills are working and although holes put down have been shallow the picture unfolding is a pleasing one. One of the holes in the main zone drilled deeper than the others gave values down to an approximate vertical depth of 200 feet.

N.B.T., Montreal, Que. — Yes, an extra dividend of two cents a share will be distributed by CANADIAN & FOREIGN SECURITIES CO., LTD., along with an annual dividend of 10 cents a share on Feb. 1 to stock of record Jan 17. Previously, the company had been paying an annual dividend of six cents a share. A bonus of four cents was distributed on the issue on Feb. 1, 1946.

R. C. E., Three Rivers, Que.—The last information I have as to BOUSQUET GOLD MINES, which has been inactive for a long time, was the report last spring that the company had lost its property of 596.5 acres in the Sudbury division through failure to pay taxes and the ground thrown open for restaking. A shaft was sunk 450 feet and a small mill installed. Some production was attained, but the operation ceased when development results proved disappointing and the mill sold to repay creditors. I have seen no recent report of any activity on the part of CATARAQUI GOLD MINES, which still holds a property in Grimsthorpe township, Hastings county, eastern Ontario. I have heard of no plans for the resumption of activities by McMILLAN GOLD MINES. Property is still held in the Sudbury division. I understand the company has some cash in its treasury and no debts.

P.K.C., Halifax, N.S. — Preferred and common stock representative committee of CANADIAN VICKERS LTD., have no hesitation in recommending the plan of re-organization as fair to both classes of shareholders and will support the plan, states E. Lloyd, committee secretary. It will prepare the way for immediate dividends, and it is believed the new preferred shares will be purchased in the open market or called in at the call price, as financial conditions will permit. Preferred shareholders maintain their preferred position, continues Mr. Lloyd, as to dividends and claim to security, and receive eight new shares callable at $25 each plus two new common shares for each preferred now held. Common shareholders will receive three new common for each common held.

P. P., Sydney, N.S.—I am unable to advise as to whether you will be able to purchase NORANDA MINES shares below today's level. If I did I would only be guessing. A low of $45.50 was reached this year as compared with a high of $72.75, which peak was exceeded in 1940 and 1939. A low of $36 was reached in 1942. The market recently has shown some strength on buying attributed to expectations that the strike was heading towards a settlement, as well as the belief that rising prices for foreign copper might largely offset wage increases which may be settled upon. The dividend is currently $1 per share a quarter and this year's total distribution will be the same as in 1945. Earnings for the first nine months of 1946 are estimated at $2.27 per share, against $3.13 per share in the first nine months of last year. In the annual report, J. Y. Murdoch, president, intimated that the directors felt justified in drawing to some extent on the company's surplus for dividend purposes. Noranda has a very large cash position, numerous excellent subsidiaries and is quite active in the search for properties of merit. The combined total of marketable bonds and shares at cost, and shares in controlled mining subsidiaries at market value, were equal at the end of 1945 to almost $20 a share on issued capital. I look upon the shares as a satisfactory investment for a hold.

H.F.R., Milbrook, Ont. — HAYES MANUFACTURING CO., LTD., established a new sales record in the year ended Oct. 31, 1946. This company, on being acquired by new interests headed by J. N. Turvey last summer, sold $250,000 in 4½ per cent preferred at par and 45,000 common shares at $3.50 per share. Mr. Turvey, in submitting the report for the year ended Oct. 31, 1946, states that total sales of $1,439,000 reflect 13 months for Hayes and 12 months for Lawrence Manufacturing Co., acquired at the time of change of ownership of Hayes and now operated as a wholly owned subsidiary. The total compared with $1,132,000 combined sales for the two firms in the fiscal years ending in 1945. Net profit before taxes was $128,791, more than double the $63,628 reported on a comparable basis for the preceding year. Taxes were higher at $67,326 against $33,075, leaving net profit of $61,464 compared with $30,552. As Lawrence Manufacturing profits could be included only for the four months since acquisition, the audited statement shows $49,485 net profit carried to balance sheet, reflecting 13 months earnings by Hayes and four months by Lawrence. After $25,804 for dividend on Hayes old preferred stock (since retired) and $2,812 initial payment on the new preferred, earned surplus stood at $144,580. Earnings for the full year indicate annual requirements for preferred dividend, amounting to $11,250, were earned approximately five times. Net working capital was $396,000 at Oct. 31, 1946, an increase from $382,682 as reported in the statement dated June 30, 1946.

E.S.A., Edmonton, Alta. — Sales volume of BURNS & CO., LTD., of Calgary, and its subsidiaries for this year will substantially be in excess of $100,000,000, reports J. Dinning, president. The company declared dividends of $2 a share on the class "A" stocks and $1 a share on the "B," both payable Jan. 29, 1947, to holders of record Jan. 11, 1947. The dividends involve disbursements of $177,000, after payment of which, it is stated, working capital will remain above $3,500,000. Pointing out that earnings from operations have been declining through reduced hog production and substantial wage increases, Mr. Dinning said that it is imperative that some relief from price ceilings be made in the packing industry if higher costs are to be met without lower prices to livestock producers.

BUSINESS AND MARKET FORECAST

What Are Rally Limits?

BY HARUSPEX

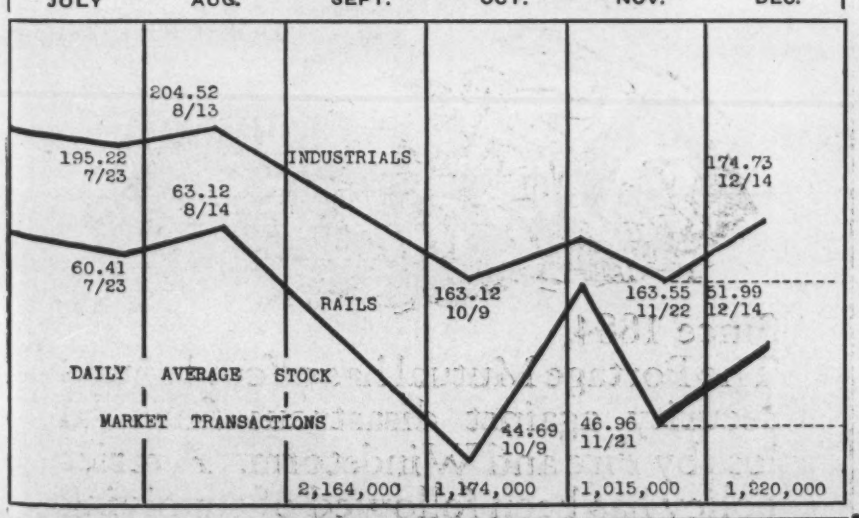
THE LONG-TERM NEW YORK STOCK MARKET TREND: While the decline of the past several months has gone some distance toward discounting maladjustments in the economic picture, evidence is lacking that a point of fundamental turnabout has yet been reached.

THE SEVERAL-MONTH TREND: The May-October decline carried stock prices below the current level of business and earnings. Accordingly, a base for intermediate recovery has been established out of which the current advance is progressing with indications of further rise as yet ahead.

If share prices, as seems probable, are now in process of registering worthwhile recovery out of the favorable intermediate economic and market background that has been pointed to in these Forecasts since September, the question arises as to how far such a movement may progress. One approach to the answer is to check technical considerations. The normal technical limits to an intermediate advance following a primary decline such as that witnessed from May 1946 would be a ⅜ to ⅝ cancellation of such decline. These cancellation limits, in terms of the Dow-Jones industrial average, on closing prices, would be 181/194; for the rail average, 53/59. From another approach, panic breaks such as the recent August-September drop seemed to resemble in certain characteristics, are approximately 60% cancelled, which would call for a rally to around 185/190 on the industrials, to around 54/56 on the rails. Finally, as occurred in 1922-3, 1933-4 and 1938-9, a severe break has sometimes been followed by an intermediate recovery in one or both averages to approximately the tops from which the break started. These tops, in the current instance, were 212 for the industrial average, 68 for the rail average.

As among the limits discussed above, for intermediate rally, the most likely figures, in our opinion, would be a level representing an approximate 60% cancellation of the break from August, that is, to around 188 on the industrial average, around 55 on the rails. The intermediate economic background, previously alluded to, seems to us sufficiently favorable to warrant more than a minimum ⅜ recovery, whereas the longer-term background would hardly seem, at least at this writing, to justify a price level equal to that of the early half of 1946. To reach to around the 188 level, or higher, however, the market must first touch the ⅜ rally limit of around 181 and it would not be at all abnormal for the present surge to meet important resistance there. Then, after one or more weeks of irregularity and, assuming no major strikes are called by the C.I.O., an attempt to carry the movement forward again would be in order.

DOW JONES STOCK AVERAGES



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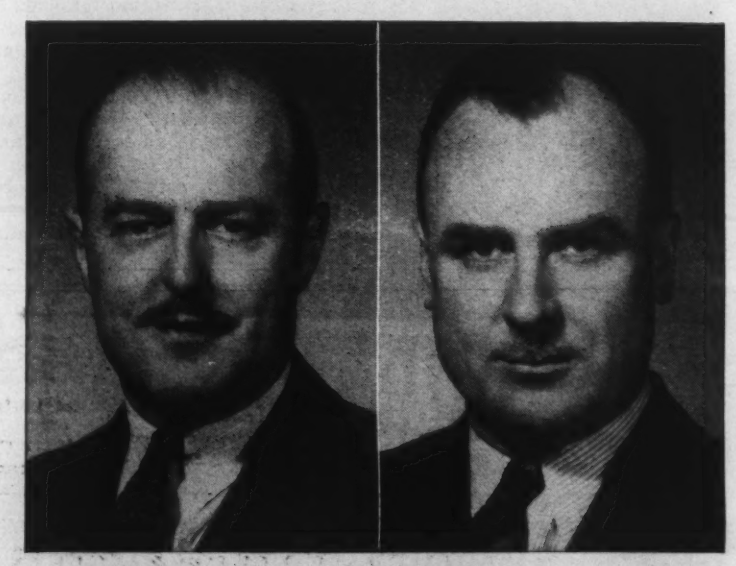

MR. ALFRED M. TALBOT MR. HARRY L. SLATER, C.A.

NEW EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS BY CANADIAN FOOD PRODUCTS LIMITED

Howard L. Walker, President of Canadian Food Products Limited, announces the appointments of Alfred M. Talbot as Executive Vice-President and Harry L. Slater, C.A., as Vice-President and Treasurer of Canadian Food Products Limited. Previous to the new appointments, Mr. Talbot was Assistant to the President of the company and Mr. Slater was Treasurer. Before joining Canadian Food Products Limited in 1945, Mr. Talbot was Sales Manager for Tip Top Tailors Limited and before that was with the Robert Simpson Company in Toronto. Mr. Slater joined the Company in 1944, coming from Ottawa where he was located for four years with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and the Foreign Exchange Control Board. He became a Chartered Accountant with Price, Waterhouse & Co., and is a graduate of Queen's University. Mr. Slater was born in Waterdown, Ontario. Canadian Food Products Limited operates Honey Dew Coffee Shops, Muirheads Cafeterias, Barker's Biscuits, Woman's Bakery Shops, Picardy Candies, Industrial Food Services, Willards Chocolates, Window Bakeries and Golden Rule Bakeries.

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ABOUT INSURANCE

More Safety Precautions Against Fire Needed in Hotel Buildings

By GEORGE GILBERT

As loss of life is the greatest toll exacted by fire, and as it is in hotels, apartment houses and other buildings where many people are housed in a single structure that the most calamitous disasters of this kind occur, the necessity of enforcing adequate safety measures in such places is obvious.

Experience shows that safety to life in these buildings depends largely upon the provision of ample, properly protected from smoke and fire, clearly indicated and readily accessible means of egress from the premises.

AFTER every fire in a hotel, night club, school or other place of public assembly, involving heavy loss of life, there is an immediate public demand for more effective safety measures so as to prevent a recurrence of such disasters. In some cases this has resulted in the stablishment of better safeguards against the loss of life and property by fire. On the other hand, while such catastrophies command nation-wide attention for a day or two, they are too often then forgotten until another disaster occurs.

Safety to life in the event of fire in such structures depends to a large extent upon the provision of ample and properly protected, clearly indicated and readily accessible means of speedy egress from the premises. For over two decades the experts of the National Fire Protection Association, a public-spirited body with members throughout the United States and Canada and devoted to the promotion of fire protection and fire prevention, have been studying the problem of egress from buildings in case of fire. It might seem that after such lengthy deliberation, a satisfactory solution would have been found and adopted, and that the necessary measures to ensure safety to life in such structures would be generally in force and be effective in preventing the loss of life which has taken place in recent hotel fires.

Different Factors

Of course, it is true that the problem of safe egress from buildings in case of fire differs from many of the usual engineering problems of fire protection, because in addition to the physical factors, such as building construction and arrangement, there are the highly uncertain, indefinite factors of human behavior in case of fire emergency. Furthermore, it is not possible, as the experts point out, to make laboratory tests to determine the efficiency of fire escapes, stairways and other exits at a time of fire.

It is also necessary, in specifying stairways and other exits, that consideration be given to the conditions of their use, covering such items as fire drills of the building staff, and various factors affecting the availability of the exits at time of a fire. Smoke conditions, hazardous conditions in the building, panic conditions and many other factors all affect the usefulness of the exits.

One section of the Building Exits Code prepared by the National Fire Protection Association experts applies to hotels and apartment houses providing sleeping accommodation for twenty or more persons. The primary principle of this section is to specify construction and arrangement of exits so as to avoid danger to life by fire. Prevention of damage to property is not the object of the Code, although many of the requirements made for life safety will incidentally contribute towards fire safety for property.

Recognizing that the hazard to life in old hotel and apartment buildings of inferior construction and arrangement is definitely more serious than in modern structures, the safety requirements are more stringent than for modern buildings. However, as the expense of making the changes necessary to put such requirements into effect might in many cases be virtually confiscatory, there is a general reluctance on the part of municipal and other authorities to strictly enforce them.

Existing Structures

As a result, some compromise is generally regarded as necessary in order not to impose any undue hardship on the owners of buildings which when erected complied with all the then existing requirements, and the provisions of the Code for existing structures are intended only to provide the maximum degree of safety to life which can reasonably be required.

One of the requirements of the Code is that exits shall be so arranged that it will not be necessary to travel more than 100 feet from the floor of any room or apartment, or from any point in a building or section not divided into rooms, to reach the nearest exit. In building equipped with automatic sprinklers throughout, the distance may be 150 feet. Exits should be spaced as far apart as possible. In non-fire-resistive buildings, exits are required to be so arranged that there are no pockets or dead ends in which occupants may be trapped.

Another requirement is that not less than two means of exit shall be provided on every floor, including basements, of every building or section, except where buildings are divided into private apartments, in which case each apartment shall have access to two independent exits so arranged that to reach either exit it will not be necessary to pass through a public corridor or hallway serving the other exit, except that in buildings of fire-resistive construction, not more than four storeys in height, not more than four suites or apartments on one floor may be served by a single stairway.

On the street floor at least one exit shall be a door leading directly outside the building, and the other must be a door leading outside the building or a standard horizontal exit. On upper floors and in basements, one exit shall be an inside stairway (or smoke-proof tower) and the other or others must be inside stairways (or smoke-proof towers) or horizontal exits, or elevators complying with standard requirements.

Vertical Openings

All stairways, elevator shafts and other vertical openings must be protected by enclosures, except in buildings not more than two storeys in height of fire-resistive construction or protected by a complete automatic sprinkler system. New buildings to be used for hotel or apartment purposes must not be higher than as follows: Wood frame construction, 3 storeys; masonry wall and joist construction, 4 storeys; fire-resistive construction, no limit. Existing structures 2 storeys higher than the above limits may be occupied for hotel or apartment purposes provided the building is completely protected by automatic sprinklers installed in accordance with standard requirements.

At least half of the required stairways should lead to the street directly or by way of a court, yard or fire-resistive passage. Where required stairs discharge through the main lobby or foyer, all kitchens, storerooms, shops and other rooms of combustible occupancy must be cut off from the foyer or lobby with fire-resistive walls or partitions with automatic fire doors or wired glass windows protecting such openings, or such rooms of combustible occupancy must be protected by automatic sprinklers.

Public spaces, halls, stairways and other exits must have signs and be illuminated. Exitways must be continuously illuminated at all times. Exits from public hallways or passageways on floors with sleeping accommodation must have illuminated signs. Where exits are not visible from every point in a hallway or passageway, illuminated signs must be provided to indicate the direction to exits. In hotels there should be conspicuously posted in each room a floor plan showing the arrangement of exits and the direction of travel to reach them.

Inquiries

Editor About Insurance:

I would appreciate receiving your opinion concerning the making of application for insurance through the following companies: Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co., Hartford, Conn.; the Commercial Travellers' Mutual Accident Association, Utica, N.Y. Are they reliable, licensed to do business in Canada, and are claims readily collectable?

—M. A. R., Hudson, Ont.

The Commercial Travellers' Mutual Accident Association of America, with head office at Utica, N.Y., and chief agency in Canada at Ottawa, has been in business since 1883 and has been operating in this country under Dominion registry since Nov. 7, 1933. It is regularly licensed here as a fraternal benefit society, and has a deposit with the Government at Ottawa for the protection of Canadian policyholders. At the end of 1945 its total admitted assets in Canada were $227,105, while its total liabilities in this country amounted to $29,600, showing an excess of assets in Canada over liabilities in Canada of $197,506. Claims are readily collectable and it is safe to insure with for fraternal insurance. The Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co., with head office at Hartford, Conn., is an old-established, strong and reliable life insurance company, but, according to our information, is not now licensed in this country for the transaction of new business. In our opinion, it is advisable in taking out a policy to insure with companies that are regularly licensed here and which have deposits with the Government for the exclusive protection of Canadian policyholders.

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A PROGRESSIVE CANADIAN COMPANY

Canada's Coal Industry Needs Face Lifting

By EDWARD B. HIGGINS

The coal industry today is a dying one. Eighty per cent of new home owners are installing gas or oil. To regain the market, the coal industry must equal or surpass the quality or quantity of service which the consumer can get from gas and oil companies. The manufacturers of coal-burning equipment must lead the way by providing efficient automatic stokers. Sound practical thinking and constructive action can restore coal to its rightful place as a competitive merchandiser of heat and power.

IT HAS been said, with what might appear to be a certain amount of justification, that the coal industry is a dying one—that insufficient production, strikes, high cost and lack of convenience have combined together to crystallize a most unfavorable body of public opinion to the point where conversions to gas and oil are making tremendous inroads into that market formerly held by industrial and home heating solid fuels.

Coal—in one form or another—has been used to provide both power and heat for many centuries and it was not until comparatively recently that any competitive fuel made its appearance.

Grandfather was quite content, in his own small way, to stoke up the fire, juggle the drafts and carry out the ashes as often as need be. His modern counterpart still does the same thing but with a keen appreciation of the fact that more modern convenient fuels are available at very slightly higher cost.

Today this different picture presents itself. Gas, natural or manufactured, is now available in many areas at high relative cost but at the same time high in convenience and cleanliness.

Oil, just as automatic as gas but still with one or two minor disadvantages (danger from explosion and a slight film of oily soot deposited on walls and furniture) is fast becoming the preferred fuel for home heating and, in some cases, supplanting coal in industrial plants as a source of power. What, then, is the future of the coal industry? Is it dead, dying or only dormant?

Resulting Dislocation

The resulting dislocation in the industrial life of North America, were the coal industry to be relegated to a fifth class operation, is something no one thinks about with any degree of satisfaction. Increased wages for digging coal mean higher prices for the product, less consumption and ultimately fewer jobs for miners. Coal could thus easily be "priced out of the market."

That there is a trend to other fuels, seems evident. Let us look at the facts. A recent survey carried out in the United States revealed that over 5,000 retail coal merchants had lost about 8 per cent of their business in the last year to gas and oil. But what was more serious in the overall picture was the fact that 25% of coal consumers have stated that they intend to switch to gas and oil as quickly as they can: 50 per cent of these because they have been dissatisfied with the kind of coal they have had to take and because they cannot obtain the kind they want, the other 50 per cent because coal lacks the convenience and cleanliness of other fuels.

To top it all off, it was clearly indicated that 80 per cent of the new home market is going to gas and oil. Thus it would appear that, as far as new home construction is concerned, the poor showing of coal-burning equipment installations justifies the complete disregard of coal as a competitor by the gas and oil industries.

The coal industry does not view such a picture as being the least bit healthy. In fact for the past few years both the Anthracite Institute and The Bituminous Coal Institute in the U.S.A. have been instrumental in awakening dealer interest as well as informing the public at large as to the importance of such a basic industry.

The National Coal Association, Bituminous Coal Research with its Batelle Institute and the Anthracite Research Laboratories have been conscious of the need for completely automatic coal heat. Tremendous progress has been made but, to date, very few items of automatic coal-burning equipment have reached the consumer market. This is the number one problem facing the industry today.

It is almost axiomatic that if an industry deserves a good public opinion it will get it—if the public is told the true story in an effective manner. This has been recognized by at least one branch of the coal industry in the United States.

The National Coal Association has recently created a "Coal Heating Service" Division whose job will be to set up and supervise cooperative educational, advertising and public relations plans in major cities of the United States and Canada. Such plans involve dealer cooperation, a 24-hour trouble shooting service for coal consumers and progressive, up-to date merchandizing methods of coal distribution.

Must Become Efficient

Only by such actual measures can the coal industry as a whole expect to retain the markets so vital to its existence. The local retail coal merchant must be able to offer good fuel and deliver it without dust or dirt; that fuel must be burned in equipment that gives a full measure of convenience and comfort.

Last, but by no means least, the consumer must be freed from any concern in the handling of either coal or ash. These factors are basic; to them we must of course add the one important point of service. The quality and quantity of service that the coal man offers must equal or surpass that which the consumer can get from gas and oil suppliers.

The future of the industry is not bright but neither is it hopeless. The possibility of nationalization must be borne in mind although from a practical point of view it still has to be proven that Governmental control of any industry can be as efficient as that exercised under private enterprise.

Coal must be continuously produced in an efficient manner, marketed capably in this highly competitive field and coincident with such action, the manufacturers of coal-burning equipment must lead the way by providing efficient completely automatic stokers and controls.

With such constructive action designed to give the industry a much needed overhaul, the coal dealer may well take his place in the community as a merchandiser of a much needed product. He must, however, take those steps which will entitle him to a public opinion so favorable that he will be able to stay in business.

It must be borne in mind, too, that the coal industry as a whole is too deeply woven into the web of our national economy; sound practical thinking will have to provide the impetus for constructive action to restore the coal industry to its rightful place as a competitive, merchandiser of heat and power.

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News of the Mines

(*Continued from Page* 19)

aging $20.58 for a width of 10 feet. The deep drilling is planned to develop these zones as well as to investigate a strong break which extends across the 500 acre property in an east-west direction.

•

An extensive program of diamond drilling has commenced at Thompson-Lundmark Gold Mines, a former gold producer near Thompson Lake, Yellowknife. The drilling is part of the plan for re-opening. Considerable progress is reported in the rehabilitation of the mine, mill and surface plant. The present drilling returned some encouragement in the first hole. The 125-ton mill at Thompson-Lundmark produced approximately $1,765,000 before it was shut down in September, 1943.

•

Indin Lake Gold Mines and Colomac Yellowknife Gold Mines have been carrying out a joint underground program in the Indin Lake section to test at depth a porphyry dyke which returned good values during both surface work and diamond drilling. Bulk sampling of a greater part of the material excavated from this underground work showed both gold values and tonages to exceed those indicated by drilling from surface. On the basis of present indications officials are hopeful of establishing eventually a large tonnage, low grade proposition. Operations have been suspended until fresh supplies of fuel oil and explosives are brought in by tractor train in January or February.

•

Of great importance to the mining industry of Quebec was the announcement last week by Premier Duplessis that American and Canadian interests planned to build a zinc refinery, at or near Arvida in Chicoutimi County. A 15-year, exclusive right, to treat customs offerings of zinc ore and concentrate from mines in that province has been granted the new company, American Quebec Zinc Refiners Limited. The refinery will cost between $10,000,000 and $11,000,000 and is expected to be in production early in the spring of 1948. At present, Quebec material is refined in the United States. The refinery will be capable of producing 100 tons of high grade electrolytic zinc a day, and 70,000 tons of sulphuric acid a year, plus cadmium. Howard L. Young, head of the American Zinc, Lead and Smelting Company, St. Louis, will be president of the new company. The American company is providing 51% of the working capital and will direct the operation. Harry W. Knight, president of Golden Manitou Mines, a zinc-gold-silver-lead-copper producer of Quebec, will be on the board of the refining company. Golden Manitou is reported acquiring the remaining 49% of the common stock, but another Quebec zinc producer may share in this participation. Installation of equipment is expected to commence early in 1947.

•

Opemiska Copper Mines (Quebec) Ltd. remained idle in 1945, as it has for some years, but all claims continue to be maintained in good standing by means of advances made by Ventures Limited. An effort however, will be made to revive the operation if the price of copper continues to advance, J. M. Cunningham-Dunlop, president, states in the annual report for 1945. As at December 31, 1945, the company's current assets totalled $17,990, of which $17,891 was estimated stock of supplies and materials. Current liabilities amounted to $19,440, with $19,400 of this advances from Ventures. Of the authorized capitalization of 5,000,000 shares, 3,734,494 are issued.

•

Recent listings of mining companies on the Toronto Stock Exchange include shares Larder "U" Island Mines and Renabie Mines. The former is capitalized at 5,000,000 shares of which 3,461,405 are issued, while Renabie's authorized capitalization is 1,500,000 of which 1,050,005 shares are outstanding. Larder "U" is currently exploring the south contact of the Larder Lake syncline on its 23-claim group adjoining south of the eastern end of the Amalgamated Larder property, with encouragement already reported from this work. Other property of Renabie Mines, a subsidiary of Macassa Mines, is located in the Missinaibi area, or Northern Ontario. Construction of mill and other buildings is proceeding here, and while original hopes were that the mine would be in production by the close of 1946, delays in obtaining deliveries of materials and equipment make it now appear that it will be March before the plant gets into operation. The Renabie mine was shut down due to war conditions, also shortage of labor and materials and only reopened last March.

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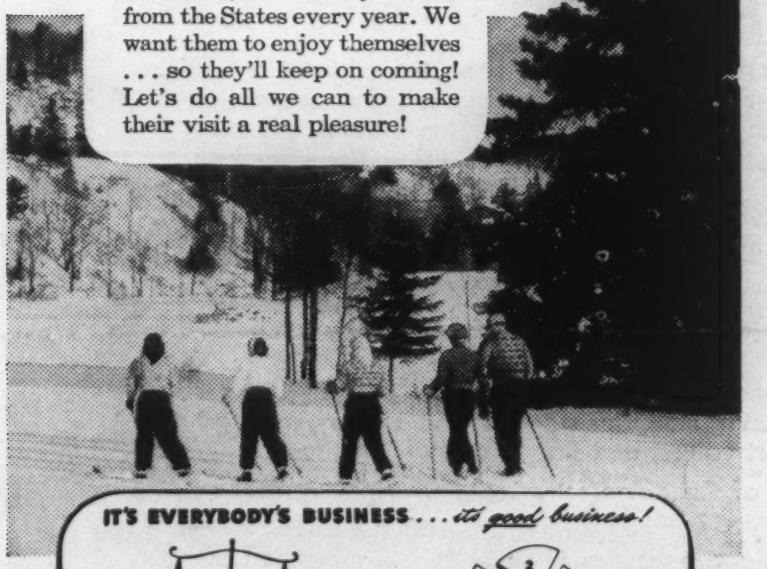

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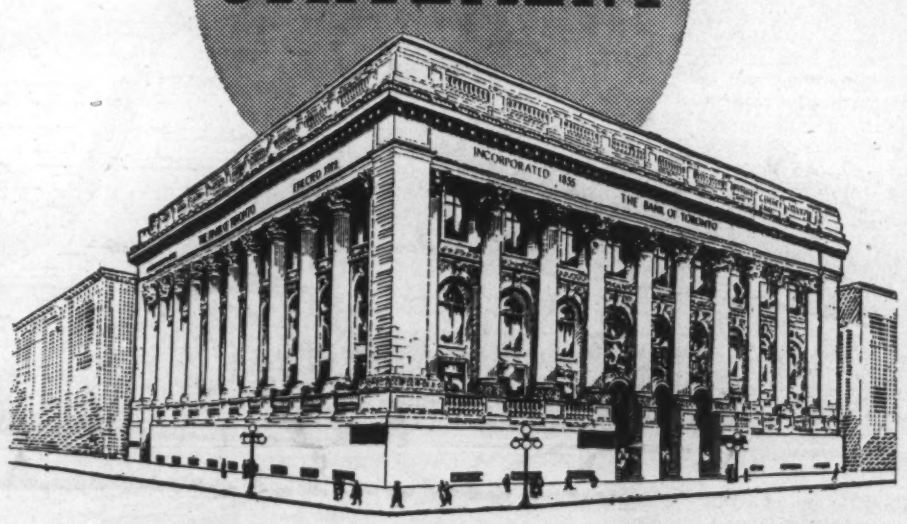

Statement as on 30th November, 1946

ASSETS

		30th Nov., 1946
Cash and Deposit with Bank of Canada		$ 40,198,693.37
Notes of and Cheques on Other Banks		14,801,559.72
Deposits with Other Banks		5,263,982.23
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities	not exceeding	191,499,386.41
Municipal and Other Securities	market value	15,299,935.08
Call Loans (secured)		7,261,686.00
Total Quick Assets (79.03% of total Liabilities to the Public)		$274,325,242.81
Commercial and Other Loans		85,423,554.39
Bank Premises		3,492,200.37
Letters of Credit and Acceptances		4,123,888.57
Other Assets		307,330.21
Total Assets		$367,672,216.35

LIABILITIES

Deposits	$342,236,048.20
Notes in Circulation	745,526.00
Letters of Credit as per contra	4,123,888.57
Total Liabilities to the Public	$347,105,462.77
Dividends Declared and Unpaid	270,548.12
Capital	6,000,000.00
Reserve Fund	14,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	296,205.46
Total Liabilities	$367,672,216.35

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS

Profits for the year ending 30th November, 1946, after contributions to Staff Pension Fund and after providing $772,082.77 for Dominion Government taxes of which $4,972.17 is refundable under the provisions of the Excess Profits Tax Act (full provision for bad and doubtful debts having been made)		$ 1,307,036.26
Depreciation, Bank Premises and Equipment		112,577.32
		$ 1,194,458.94
Dividends		720,000.00
Balance of Profits carried forward		$ 474,458.94
Profit and Loss Balance 30th November, 1945		1,821,746.52
		$ 2,296,205.46
Transferred to Reserve Fund		2,000,000.00
Profit and Loss Balance 30th November, 1946		$ 296,205.46

F. H. MARSH, *President.* B. S. VANSTONE, *General Manager.*

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